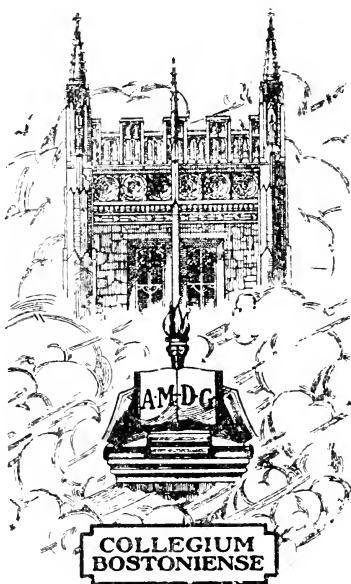


The Geographical  
Distribution of  
Irish Ability

BY J. GEORGE HILL



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THE  
GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION  
OF  
IRISH ABILITY.

BY  
D. J. O'DONOGHUE,

AUTHOR OF "LIFE OF J. C. MANGAN," "LIFE OF WM. CARLETON,"  
"POETS OF IRELAND," &C., &C.

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*To* A. A. CAMPBELL, ESQ., BELFAST.

DEAR CAMPBELL,

As this book would never have been written but for your friendly pressure, I venture to dedicate it to you, thus placing upon you some of the responsibility for its existence.

Yours very truly,

D. J. O'DONOGHUE.

*Dublin, 1906.*



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## PREFACE.



THE motive which induced me to prepare this book was not to contrast one Irish county with another, still less to exalt any particular localities above others less favoured by nature. Indeed, if the purpose to be served were simply one of gratifying a semi-scientific curiosity, the task would not have been undertaken. My real object was to put on record, in as brief a space as possible, the surprising manifestations of Irish intellect, and to give, in a narrative form, as much biographical information as could be collected. A biographical dictionary will not appeal to many Irish readers, who are, nevertheless, anxious to know what Ireland has contributed to the world's knowledge and improvement. More than one interest may be served by the method here adopted. And the list of names given in the index, which runs into thousands, is by far the fullest that has ever been compiled. Even Webb's "Compendium of Irish Biography" does not contain one-third of the men and women named in this book—which is no disparagement to that admirable compilation so far as it goes. The need of a really comprehensive dictionary of Irish biography is very urgent, as all students of the subject are aware. The present attempt at a survey of the field does not profess to be complete—many names have been inadvertently omitted, others from the difficulty of obtaining the necessary particulars. In a later edition, if called for, improvements might be effected by the extension of the index, and by relieving the pages of some of the accumulated

detail. Those who have tried to manipulate a mass of material of this kind, and to reduce it to an ordered narrative, will appreciate the manifest difficulties the present writer has had to encounter. The preparation of the index has called for labour of another kind—the mere consulting of fifty biographical dictionaries would not suffice. Many of the names have been found in other sources, and the definite data about them has been procured only after considerable research. Such as it is, the result of much labour is here presented to the reader, to the student of local and national history, and to the various, and now numerous, inquirers into the question of genius and its causes.

I may say at once that the theory of heredity as a chief cause of genius does not strike me as worthy of much consideration. The vast number of clever people whose progeny are undistinguished, and the acknowledged fact that it accounts for only about forty per cent. of the talent of, say, Great Britain and Ireland, seem to be factors destructive of that theory. Environment, I believe, has much more to say in the matter. Havelock Ellis, one of the best informed and most convincing writers on this subject of national ability, regards the birth-place of a man of ability as immaterial, and so it is, in the sense that famous people are born nearly everywhere, but the remarkable fertility of certain localities in genius is nevertheless a factor which has to be explained either by heredity or environment, or, perhaps, by the microbe theory as suggested in the introductory chapter. I certainly think that locality has some influence on the quality or direction of genius, and therefore I have given birthplace or place of immediate origin a preponderating share in the production of ability. Obviously it assumes greater importance among country people than among those born in towns.



Mr. Havelock Ellis, in his "Study of British Genius" (which includes an absurdly inadequate summary of Irish ability), acknowledges that "the shock of contact with a strange and novel environment, which we have proved to be so frequent, acts as a most powerful stimulant to the nascent intellectual aptitudes." Also: "Though it is highly probable that there is a real connection between genius and the conditions prevailing in its environment, we must not here too hastily assume such a connection." The occasional fact of genius running in a family is as good an argument for environment as for heredity. Statistics would seem, however, to show that moral qualities (or the reverse) are more easily transmissible than intellectual ones, and that environment is the most powerful of the influences which culminate in genius—which is another name for abnormality. If the collected facts prove anything, they surely prove that a boy has a far better chance of becoming a genius in, say, Cork or Norfolk, than in Leitrim or Middlesex. To be born in Ireland, or some other favoured locality, is obviously a more fortunate thing from our present point of view than to be born in, say, Wales. Even a dullard runs the risk of becoming clever in a bright and keen intellectual environment, such as Dublin, Cork, Edinburgh, or Paris. Heredity does not prevent eminent people from having very stupid progeny; on the other hand, there is no excuse for the mentally slow whose apprehension is not quickened by constant contact with brighter wits. The Southern mind everywhere is more nimble than that of the North.

I have said that Mr. Havelock Ellis gives a very inadequate summary of Irish ability, but this is clearly due to his lack of material. He takes the "Dictionary of National Biography" as his source of information, being evidently unaware that the Irish biographies in that work are given

far less than their proportionate space; and this of course materially modifies his results, for he only names those whose biographies in that work run to at least three pages. His proportionate results are therefore anything but representative. For example, Balfe and Macfarren are included, Wallace and Field are not; moreover, Foley and Hogan are missing among the sculptors. The exclusions are, however, too numerous to indicate. His list is as follows (the numbers representing notabilities of each county):—Dublin—15; Cork—10; Antrim—9; Down—8; Waterford—6; Londonderry—6; Kilkenny—5; Clare—4; Westmeath—4; Tyrone—4; Wexford—3; Limerick—3; Kildare—2; Tipperary—2; Kerry—2; Galway—2; Mayo—2; Donegal—2; Armagh—2; Cavan—1; Carlow—1; Wicklow—1; Queen's Co.—1; Longford—1; Meath, Louth, King's Co., Sligo, Roscommon, Leitrim, Fermanagh, Monaghan—0. That is to say, the last eight counties have contributed nothing to progress. This is, of course, quite beside the mark. It should be mentioned that Mr. Ellis does not include living people or those very recently dead (at the time his returns were compiled). Quality in such a matter as genius is naturally more important than quantity, and consequently I have refrained here from giving my own conclusions. I will leave the student who is competent to appraise the quality to form his own opinions from the index at the end of this book. A very well-informed friend of mine has, however, produced a table of his own for the Irish counties, based on the proportion of genius to population, and I venture to extract the details from a letter of his, premising that his material was anything but complete, and that the order of the counties in his list must be consequently altered.

Any reader can easily compile his own tables from the

index to this book. But to my friend's letter (written more than a year ago, and his table therefore more than three years old) :

“I venture to think you will be interested in the result of a somewhat similar investigation which I undertook about two years ago. The subject had occurred to me now and again for a long period, and at the time mentioned I resolved to go into the matter as fully as I could with the means at my disposal, deciding to work for relative or proportional numerical results per county.

“The standard of merit I adopted was not so high as yours by any means, but, such as it was, it was as fair to one county as to another. I inserted contemporaries somewhat sparingly, even when I knew them well, or fairly well. After much collation of lists, I found myself in possession of just about 1,165 names, distributed under their respective counties. The next consideration was the population of each county. I took the several decennial periods as given in Thom's Directory, and found the average population of each county for the period covered by these returns. As regards the ‘long succession of centuries’ prior to the first exact census, what was to be done but to act on the assumption that the proportion between the population of one county and that of another had been the same—at any rate approximately—before the time of exact records, as during the time of these records? There was not a particle of use in trying to theorise about disturbances of the balance caused by wars here, and clearances there, and plantations elsewhere: these would give nothing definite. As to the effect on the totals resulting from the Famine and the subsequent exodus, it is to be remembered these came within the periods returned, and I had to take the figures as I found them. After all the

consideration I could give it, at all events, I could see no other way of working which seemed so equitable as that which I am detailing.

“I then worked out how many persons of talent each county had produced per 10,000 of population—experiment having shown that to be a convenient standard—and from my lists, such as they were, arrived at the result here briefly given:—

| <i>County.</i>  | <i>Proportion per 10,000.</i> |     |     |       |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-------|
| Dublin ...      | ...                           | ... | ... | 6·31  |
| Waterford ...   | ...                           | ... | ... | 3·33  |
| Limerick ...    | ...                           | ... | ... | 2·74  |
| Cork ...        | ...                           | ... | ... | 2·44  |
| Meath ...       | ...                           | ... | ... | 2·33  |
| Kilkenny ...    | ...                           | ... | ... | 2·22  |
| Queen's Co. ... | ...                           | ... | ... | 2·09  |
| Antrim ...      | ...                           | ... | ... | 2·04  |
| Louth ...       | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·93  |
| Kildare ...     | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·89  |
| Tipperary ...   | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·86  |
| Wicklow ...     | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·84  |
| Wexford ...     | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·74  |
| Carlow ...      | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·71  |
| Westmeath ...   | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·60  |
| King's Co. ...  | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·59  |
| Galway ...      | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·51  |
| Donegal ...     | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·46  |
| Sligo ...       | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·35  |
| Down ...        | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·30  |
| Roscommon ...   | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·29  |
| Tyrone ...      | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·25  |
| Fermanagh ...   | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·23  |
| Clare ...       | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·11  |
| Londonderry ... | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·10  |
| Kerry ...       | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·073 |
| Longford ...    | ...                           | ... | ... | 1·072 |
| Monaghan ...    | ...                           | ... | ... | 0·85  |
| Leitrim ...     | ...                           | ... | ... | 0·84  |
| Mayo ...        | ...                           | ... | ... | 0·77  |
| Cavan ...       | ...                           | ... | ... | 0·76  |
| Armagh ...      | ...                           | ... | ... | 0·75  |

“The following is the result obtained by working out the provinces in a similar way :—

| <i>Province.</i> | <i>Number of Persons of Talent<br/>per 10,000 Population.</i> |     |     |      |
|------------------|---|-----|-----|------|
| Leinster         | ...   | ... | ... | 3·18 |
| Munster          | ...   | ... | ... | 2·13 |
| Ulster ...       | ...   | ... | ... | 1·32 |
| Connaught        | ...   | ... | ... | 1·17 |

“If Dublin County and City were entirely omitted, and the remaining 11 counties of Leinster worked on, the return for the Province would be 2·01. Several of the results certainly surprised me—Cork and Antrim, for example. But then, on looking again at the matter, I saw that if the actual number of persons included was comparatively large, so was the population; and also saw that let figures come as they might, I had, to the best of my ability, adhered to a rigid uniformity of working.”

However, quality rather than quantity is the important test, and clearly an O’Connell, a Parnell, a Columba, or a Wadding are worth many smaller fry. This brings me to Mr. Havelock Ellis’s table again. It is certain that all those enumerated in it were very notable, but as, whether from lack of biographical material, or the modesty of the Irish contributors, or the contempt of their English biographers, many remarkable Irishmen, of higher standing than some of the “three-page” Englishmen and Scotchmen, were briefly dismissed in a page or two, or two pages and three-quarters, the table is not by any means just. Mr. Ellis is, however, quite as fair as his standard will allow him to be. The number of pages devoted to a particular celebrity in a biographical dictionary is no criterion as to quality. The personal material may be very voluminous (a state of things which rarely happens

with Irish ability), or it may be very meagre (which is the usual feature of Irish biography). Moreover, by adopting this method, and extending it *ad lib*, it might be proved that Shakespeare, and, say, the Tichborne claimant, were the only notable people born in modern times.

It has been mentioned that the moral qualities are more likely to be transmitted than the intellectual, and this may explain the undoubted influence of the mother on many notable, and, especially very good, people. Great men of high character have constantly attributed to their mothers' influence much of their success in life, and there can be no doubt that moral strength is often allied with the purest genius. But genius, being an abnormality, various other speculations are suggested by this theme, and it may be worth while to note some curious facts, which seem to be established by the researches of different observers. I have not worked out the results for Irish genius, but no doubt they would not differ appreciably from the general conclusions. It is quite clear that the Anglo-Irish strain is a very remarkable one, and that it has produced a very famous set of men. The Norman-Irish blend is also most distinguished. I have no doubt, however, that the Irish blood predominates. It is to be observed that the Anglo-Irish strain is most notable *when the junction occurred in Ireland*. Some years ago a leading critical journal pointed with pride to the "fact" that most notable Irishmen bore "English" names, just as Mrs. Oliphant coolly claimed Sheridan as an English cognomen. The truth is, of course, that many of the so-called English names were purely Celtic—though partly disguised—and that really few were English in any sense. Saxon names were, of course, to seek, as it is admitted by all authorities that the predominantly Saxon parts of England have done little or

nothing for civilisation.\* Mackintosh, as Mr. Ellis points out, states that the unmixed Saxon is "marked by mental mediocrity." The power of adaptability and assimilation possessed by the Irish has always been a national characteristic. This book shows that they have done wonders in military prowess; that, considering the educational disabilities, they have contributed more than their proportion to scientific investigation; that in literature, they have found a most natural and congenial calling, and that, altogether, the "bright, little Isle" has more than justified its existence. It might be specially noted that political reform everywhere owes much of its success to Ireland.

One of the facts which has been discovered by competent observers is that the opening of a century is signalised by a burst of genius, and that consequently the latter half of the century is the most favourable for the birth of genius. The latter half of the eighteenth century is a notable case in point, but the phenomenon has been general since the eleventh century. It is also known that genius occurs mostly in large families, and that criminals are also generally found to belong to families more than normal in size. But the latter fact is capable of an easier explanation. What is more remarkable still is that it is mostly the eldest born or the latest born of a family who is the genius, or, as the case may be, the imbecile—in other words, the abnormality. Criminals are generally the first-born. For other peculiarities of first-born children, Mr. Havelock Ellis's book, already quoted, may be consulted.† Children born of young parents (under 26) or elderly (over 41) are mostly abnormal—that is to say, very able, or very good, or the exact reverse. Late parentage is most favourable

\* Ellis's *Study of British Genius*, p. 43, etc.

† pp. 119-120.

for the production of genius. The mothers of exceptionally clever people are rarely, if ever, young—they are generally nearer forty than thirty. This seems strange, when taken into conjunction with other facts just noted, but late marriage, of course, explains the apparent contradiction.

As to the vexed question of genius and insanity, there is absolutely no ground for the common fallacy that they are allied. Genius is essentially sane—if it were otherwise, we might expect to find asylums full of genius, whereas it is well known that no marked ability of any kind is found among their inmates. True, a very few notable people have been very eccentric and even mad, but these are the very rare exceptions. It is a fact, however, that consumption (so sadly prevalent in Ireland) is often associated with great ability, and still more often with beauty. One disease that frequently accompanies genius is gout, and in such cases the facts show that high living—rarely associated with supreme ability—has had nothing to say to the cause. It is quite probable that gout, as Mr. Ellis suggests, is a real stimulus to intellectual energy and achievement. Indeed, it is known that in ill-health generally, the mind becomes more active and original. Stammering often occurs in people of a high intellectual order, but of course it is also a characteristic of the mentally deficient. Charles Lamb, Charles Kingsley and Dr. Priestley are well-known instances of brilliant English stammerers; and Curran, William Maginn, Robert Boyle, Richard Lalor Shiel, John Wilson Croker, and George Darley are corresponding Irish examples. It is believed to be connected with rapid brain growth, which, in most cases, is probably too rapid for the individual and leads to ineffectiveness. It is much more common in men than in women. Illegible handwriting may be associated with this defect—it is hand-stammering, and



is, shall we say, not at all unknown among people of ability.

Pursuing our investigation in another direction, it is found that people of genius are generally above the middle height and not infrequently tall. This is, I think, more notable in writers and artists—men of action are probably of smaller build, as small people are physically superior to tall. Some notable exceptions occur even among writers, for, to take only Irish examples, Tom Moore, Samuel Lover, Lady Morgan and Crofton Croker were quite diminutive. It is rather remarkable that men and women of great ability are usually born in the summer months—from the beginning of May to the end of September, and that curiously enough, people born during that period are generally taller, than those born between October and April. Moreover, it is suggestive that what are called the lower classes, or people of humble origin, are shorter in stature than their social superiors, but people of superior ability springing from the humbler class are generally very tall.

Another matter of note is that certain professions are conducive to ability. It is too large a subject to treat here, but bankers and the much-abused publicans have been exceptionally favoured in this way. Many eminent people, especially poets, from Chaucer to Moore and Mangin, have been the sons of tavern-keepers, wine-merchants, and grocers (in the Irish sense). Statesmen, as might have been expected, have been usually of the aristocratic order, but “the old order changeth.” Actors and actresses nearly all belong to the humbler classes. It is worthy of mention, also, that they are generally dark, like divines, and that sailors and scientists are mostly fair, and that artists also tend to be fair. Social and political reformers are mostly fair, travellers and explorers chiefly dark. It would be interesting to analyse the Irish

lists thoroughly, and at some future time I may undertake the task. It is an interesting study, for biography, always an excellent literary recreation, is now found to have a scientific value. Eminent people are long-lived, as might have been expected, the many instances of premature death among poets and artists notwithstanding. The first climax seems to occur at about forty-nine, and the number of deaths of notable people between the ages of fifty-three and fifty seven is as Mr. Ellis shows, very small.

Mr. Ellis admits that Ireland scores in the production of notable women—as compared with Scotland, for example. But some of his other conclusions read strangely. Thus, he finds Ireland far behind Scotland in military genius, which strikes one as a joke. But the three-page limit is inexorable. Tom Moore once said that Irishmen neither fight well nor write well on their own soil, and, from a certain point of view, there may be something in the first part of the proposition. But, needless to say, the Sarsfields, the O'Donnells, the O'Reillys, the Lacys, the Sheridans, and the many other great Irish warriors do not cover the three-page limit. As remarkable omissions may be found among the British generals furnished by Ireland. Gough, Evans, Nicholson, Beresford, Coote, and crowds of others are lacking. Edmund Waller once wrote :—

“Others may use the ocean as their road,  
Only the English make it their abode.”

And naturally no Irish seamen are to be found in Mr. Ellis's list. He declares Ireland's contribution to this branch of human activity to be nil. Yet John Barry, Sir Robert McClure, Sir Peter Warren, Lord Aylmer and a good many others were surely worth three pages.

In summarising the respective ability of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, Mr. Ellis notes the comparative

poverty of the last-named, and quotes Welsh scholars as to the causes of it. He observes the absolute dearth of genius in the largest Welsh county—Caermarthenshire—and in treating of England, points to the fact that Kent, though once remarkable for its ability-producing gift, has gone back greatly. The same thing might be said for Kilkenny in our own country. Mr. Ellis's final word on the comparative results is that Scotland has produced more than her fair share of ability in proportion to her population, Wales less, and Ireland *still less*. Needless to say, Irish people will require stronger proof than the allotment of three pages in a particular biographical dictionary to support this alarming suggestion. Gaelic Ireland, of whose civilization some faint idea has been given in these pages, is naturally quite unknown to the modern student of scientific biography. In any case, comparative merits, as between different countries, are of little value. The important point is that a nation should live its own life, and preserve its own individuality at whatever cost.

D. J. O'DONOGHUE.

P.S.—Since this preface was written I have been reading Dr. Maurice Hime's valuable book on "The Efficiency of Irish Schools." He has conclusively shown that Irish boys educated in England have little chance of distinction. He proves that 90 per cent. of the distinguished Irishmen of our time received their education in Ireland, and that, even allowing for the difference in numbers of the pupils, the superior advantages of the Irish schools for Irish boys, at least, are overwhelming.

## ERRATA.

A few serious errors crept in during the writing and printing of the book. The most noticeable are corrected in the following list:—

Page 16—Delete *Sir* on last line of page.

Page 17, line 9—Read *were* for *are*.

Page 24, line 17—For *in* read *on*.

Page 29, line 17—For *his* read *the*.

Page 31, line 17—For *Percival* read *Perceval*.

Page 34, line 22, for *Fiechtna* read *Fachtna*.

Page 49, line 16—For *Thompson* read *Thomson*.

Page 52, line 19—For *Crotty* read *Croll*.

Page 54, line 30—Delete comma after *Fynes*.

Page 55, line 23—For *signed* read *signal*.

Page 61, line 17-18—Matthew Lyon was the American patriot, and by a bad slip is here bracketed with Sandford, the genealogist.

Page 83, line 2—After *one* read *more*.

Page 86, line 6—For *Prins* read *Prim.*

Page 103, line 1—For *John* read *James*

Page 105, last line—For *Stewart* read *Stuart*.

Page 122, line 30—For *Montague* read *Molyneux*.

Page 133, line 26—For *Rochford* read *Rochfort*.

Page 135, lines 27 and 28—For *architect* read *engraver*, and *vice versa* on next line.

Page 148, line 7—For *Christopher* read *Chichester*.

Page 151, line 2—For *Ryan* read *Kyan*.

Page 158, line 20—For *Smith* read *Smyth*.

Page 177, line 3—For *Irishmen* read *an Irishman*.

THE  
GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION  
OF  
IRISH ABILITY.



INTRODUCTORY.



THE remarkable extent of Ireland's contribution to literature, art, music, science, military service, and almost every branch of human activity, mental and physical, has never been adequately recognised, and it is the object of the present work to attempt to place before Irish readers not merely the chief facts of the case, but to endeavour to assign, as far as possible, the share of each county of Ireland in the general achievement. The subject is a very interesting one in itself, and it becomes doubly interesting when one begins to examine the record in detail. It has always seemed to me that it would be desirable to know what parts of Ireland are more prone to intellectual activity than others, and, moreover, what special kinds of mental achievement spring from different districts. It being a fact that some counties of Ireland have been more prolific than others in certain forms of genius, it should be anything but unprofitable to inquire into the phenomenon. The investigation is a difficult one; it is complicated by the natural attraction to the chief centres of Ireland of much of the intellectual force of the country; but many deductions can be drawn from the facts which will be recorded in these chapters.

There is a very natural emulation, and not a little jealousy, between the natives of different counties in Ireland. It is the same everywhere, and it is pardonable pride to feel that one was born, has moved, and lived in the identical district which produced a Shakespeare or a Burke. Few people are fully aware of the facts, and while some Irishmen may feel over-proud of their particular counties, none need be ashamed when all, considering their circumstances, have done well. Dublin, Cork, and Antrim are naturally, by their capitals, the most notable of the Irish counties, and just as London has given to England many of its greatest figures, so the chief cities of the East, South, and North have engendered within their confines the best intellect of the Irish race. But it will be necessary to make certain deductions from their glory. Dublin and Belfast have less right to some of their most honoured names than has Cork, which, not being a great centre, has had less magnetic powers. Dublin has only a partial claim to Edmund Burke, James Clarence Mangan, Richard Brinsley Sheridan, and Thomas Moore. Parentage counts for much—for as much, perhaps, as “accident” of birth, the latter having more to do with the matter of genius than is generally allowed. But in the opinion of the present writer, at any rate, very much depends on the place of birth. Certain products grow very freely in favoured districts. One is almost tempted to believe in the presence of a microbe of genius, which fixes itself in a special locality and fastens upon a pre-disposed nature, where it develops and thrives exceedingly. How otherwise are we to explain the extraordinary fertility of some parts of Ireland in the production of genius, and how else account for the varying periods and “runs” of genius? There is a good deal in the question

of heredity, no doubt ; it offers a probable solution of the problem ; but there are things which cannot be explained by the doctrine of heredity. There are cases where genius seems to be hereditary ; but the instances are far more numerous where, after the production of one fine intellect, the individual family is mentally starved for generations. It has been held that genius is rather the climax of a family than anything else. "The great man," says an eminent scientist, agreeing with Gœthe, "is evidently the culminating point of his race." That genius is infectious among the predisposed is not at all a wild theory. It has been diagnosed as a disease by several observers ; and certainly it is a complaint which has been very common in Ireland. It is obvious that the clash of intelligences encourages and develops brain power—the dullest of persons constantly mixing with people of superior ability will generally become brighter, and it is this comparatively large supply of general intelligence in Ireland which has made Irishmen, to a certain extent, the cleverest people, proportionally, in the world. At least, that is the present writer's notion. No other country of equal size known to me has produced so many notable persons. Their number is bewildering. If the present work were to attempt to enumerate them all, it would be an almost endless matter.

In dealing with the geographical distribution of Irish ability, however, one meets with difficulties not to be met with elsewhere. Owing to the terrible neglect of local history, and the utter disregard of biographical material, no country is so deplorably deficient in materials for such a work as this. It is quite impossible to name the exact birthplace of a very great number of Irish worthies. All we know is that they were Irish. If one turns over the pages of the earlier biographical dictionaries or other works

to which one would naturally turn for information about eminent people, one reads nothing but "Hibernus," or "native of Ireland." It is due to this very discreditable indifference of earlier Irish writers that Dempster, the "Saint-Stealer," and a good many other enterprising Scotch and English writers have attempted, and, in some cases, succeeded in robbing Ireland of the credit of much that she has done for civilisation. Not long ago I observed in an English biographical dictionary that the birthplace of John Field was given as Bath—a dishonest statement, it would seem, for the reason that the compiler might as well have mentioned the most remote corner of Great Britain as the particular place he did fix upon. The chief French authority on musicians, not unnaturally, repeats this error. Again, the standard biographical dictionary of Scottish worthies deliberately annexes James Arbuckle and other Irishmen. Innumerable instances might be quoted, but one of the most curious will suffice. Mr. Aldis Wright does not positively deny that the famous adaptor of Omar Khayyrm was Irish, but he shows a tenacious reluctance to disclose the fact. He has written much about Edward Fitzgerald, and nowhere, I think, does he even hint that Fitzgerald had a drop of Irish blood in his veins. We hear a great deal about his being born in Suffolk, but not a word of his being a pure-blooded Irishman, a point upon which Fitzgerald himself was quite keen.

It is the purpose of this book to give credit where credit is due. When a family has been settled in Ireland for generations, or where even one side of the family is Irish, the fact should be noted. On the other hand, the English origin of many well-known Irishmen need not be concealed, especially when it is not remote.

The belief that the Celtic race is more richly endowed



with genius than any other is not an extravagant one—it could almost be proved that it has done more for humanity and for civilisation than any other, and this work will at least give some idea of what the Irish have done. It cannot give a complete idea, as it is confined to those whose actual birthplace has been either established or fairly conjectured. As to what the Celts elsewhere have done, only a brief allusion is possible. It is known that Cornwall, most of Devonshire, and other genius-producing parts of England, are chiefly Celtic, and there have not been wanting Englishmen who have cordially admitted that the best qualities of Shakespeare are probably of Celtic origin; it is also known that the Celtic portion of Scotland has done much, but a difficult question arises in connection with the Welsh. They are a Celtic people, but it is a melancholy fact that since the Reformation they have contributed little or nothing to the progress of the world. This is the more curious because their brethren, the Bretons, with whom they are more closely allied than any other portion of the Celtic race, have produced some of the most remarkable people in France. The number of great men who have come from Brittany is quite surprising. The Bretons have done wonders for France and for civilisation—the Welsh have produced no man of really first-rate importance for centuries. It is quite inexplicable that the Breton should have done so well and his Welsh brother so little. It is true that some excellent musicians have come out of Wales of late years, and that the Welsh have been most successful as business men (the drapery trade of London being more or less in their hands as well as a good part of the milk trade); but it is unquestionable that something has occurred to retard intellectual development in Wales. In the old days Wales was famous for its warriors and its poets.

Something of the same kind seems to have happened in the Highlands. Sir Walter Scott noticed the difference in intellect between the Catholic Celt and his Highland relative, but could not account for it.\* Of course, it must be admitted that Scotland has been prolific in men of science, and that it has given us Scott and Burns and many other great names from the Lowlands; but it is difficult to say how much Celtic blood there is on the English border. In any case, the Scotch are a much less Celtic people than the Welsh. As showing the probability of the theory of infection—if such a word may be used—a glance at the relative positions of Ireland and Scotland in the matters of art and poetry may be permitted. Until comparatively recently the Scotch had shown no special proclivity to art. They had produced some good painters—Raeburn, Wilkie, and other men; but, generally speaking, Scotland did not count much in art. On the other hand, the Scotch poets were numerous and notable, whether as composers of the old ballads or of the beautiful songs of the people, or even as professors of the English style. I think all this is changed. The Irish, who were, whether as painters, sculptors, or engravers, very successful in the world of art, and were not equally notable during the same period in poetry, are now putting almost all their literary power into the writing of verse, and are doing little or nothing in art. It seems to me that the best verse of our time, so far as the English language is concerned, is being written by Irishmen. An astonishingly high level has been reached, but we have very few artists of real note. On the other hand, the Scotch are almost silent in poetry, while they are indisputably at the top of the tree

\* See "Sir Walter Scott's Tour in Ireland," by D. J. O'Donoghue. 1905.

in art. I speak, of course, only as regards Great Britain and Ireland. It is impossible not to be struck with the wonderful merit of the Glasgow School, and among the black-and-white artists there are a great number of clever Scots. True, Ireland has her Laverys, Forbeses, Hones, Yeats, Thomsons, etc., but Scotland is for once pre-eminently her superior. How is this to be accounted for? I can only attribute it to a sort of beneficent microbe which is running riot among the Scotch. The poetical microbe among us is playing such havoc that many of the most brilliant Irishmen and women of the day are writing verse, and verse of most exceptional merit. They are bringing us back to the old days, when a third of the men of Erin were bards. I hope the artistic microbe will not be discouraged, and the colleague of his who induces scientific discovery ought also to be warmly welcomed.

The details given in this book respecting each county of Ireland, what it has done, and what it has not done, will enable us to see clearly in what part of the island there is most deficiency of achievement. The information given will also probably confirm or refute—sometimes startlingly—the views which most people form about the merits of their respective counties. It will show also that the Anglo-Irish type is, and has been, a peculiar force in the world, and Mrs. Oliphant's suggestion that not only Irish blood, but Irish air, has collaborated in the product, seems entirely reasonable.

## CHAPTER I.—DUBLIN.



THOUGH the county of Dublin ranks highest as the birthplace of Irish genius, and may be taken first in this work, it is difficult to determine the extent of the credit due to the fact that it is the centre of the country. It assumes a factitious importance on that account, for many of the most famous Dublin men were of direct country parentage, and others of more remote country origin. But, deducting all possible accidents of that kind, Dublin undoubtedly holds a high and honoured place in the annals of Irish biography. Many of those who have to be mentioned do not appeal strongly to the average Irishman; their services were not rendered to the country which produced them, their abilities were as often as not directed against her; but in a survey of this sort, they count. The multitude of names makes it necessary to select examples. It would take a great deal of space to merely enumerate the eminent natives of Dublin city and county. Indeed, it is necessary to select in other instances, too, but the record of Dublin naturally tops all others. What Dublin loses by omission will not, when all deductions are made, affect her position in any way. It will merely counter-balance in a certain degree the names to which she has little claim. Perhaps the greatest Dublin men were Burke, Grattan, and Swift. The first of these Galway might lay some claim to, while Swift belongs to England by blood. Yet environment has much to do with the growth of genius, and the atmosphere of a capital accounts for something of their

distinction. Sheridan's family were originally from Cavan, and the great dramatist, the chief representative of a wonderful family, is the only one that can be properly accredited to Dublin. Take, again, the case of Thomas Moore. His name must be always intimately associated with Dublin, but his father and mother were natives of Kerry and Wexford, respectively. I have taken these few typical examples to begin with, in order to show that the subject is a rather complex one. But it is unnecessary to deal with the notable people who were born in Dublin in this detailed manner. In the case of a capital or chief centre, it is better to group the different worthies. Thus, if we take the artists, we find Dublin very prolific. Nathaniel Hone, R.A., the portrait painter, and his descendants; James M'Ardell, the engraver; George Barrett, R.A., and James A. O'Connor, the landscapists; Hugh Hamilton, Sir Martin Archer Shee, P.R.A.; Henry Tresham, R.A.; John H. Foley, R.A., the great sculptor, and in our own day, Stanhope Forbes, are perhaps the most notable of the Dublin artists. But the list also includes, among sculptors, Albert Bruce Joy, Christopher Moore, Sir Thomas Farrell, W. J. O'Doherty, John E. Jones, John Lawler, and many others; among engravers, John Brooks, Richard Houston, Richard Purcell, William Humphreys, W. N. Gardiner, Michael Ford, John Dixon, Thomas Burke, Thomas Frye, and William John Cooke, to mention but a few of the best-known, mostly of the famous mezzotint school. In other branches of art must also be named William Cuming, Robert Crone, John Doyle, Thomas Hickey, Jonathan Fisher, George and Thomas Mulvanny, W. F. Osborne, H. E. Doyle, Charles Jervas, Hugh Howard, Paul Gray, Charles Ingham (the American artist), Nicholas Crowley, Mossop, the medallist, and his son; Thomas Leeson Rowbotham, the water-colourist; William and Charles

Robertson, the miniaturists, and a host of others. Nor should the name of Augustine Saint-Gaudens, one of the foremost of living sculptors be forgotten. He is of Franco-Irish origin, but is a native of Dublin. So also is John Hughes, probably the most promising of recent Irish sculptors. These names by no means exhaust the list of Dublin-born artists, but they will be deemed sufficient for the present purpose. Clarkson Stanfield, R.A.; John Leech. Kenny Meadows and Richard Doyle were also of Dublin parentage. Turning to the poets, one finds many famous names, from Walter Quin, Nahum Tate, and Sir John Denham down to W. B. Yeats. What a distance has been covered in that interval? Wentworth Dillon, Earl of Roscommon; Thomas Parnell, John Cunningham, and other well-known eighteenth century writers were of the same school as those first-named, and it is with George Darley that we seem to get into a genuine poetical atmosphere. From that date on we find the names of Denis Florence M'Carthy, William Preston, John Castillo (the Yorkshire poet), Joseph I. C. Clarke, John Savage, Richard Dalton Williams (of Tipperary parentage), Edmund John Armstrong, George F. Savage-Armstrong, Dr. John Todhunter, Katherine Tynan, Alfred Perceval Graves, and W. B. Yeats. But some of these, and notably the last, only partially belong to Dublin. P. J. M'Call, Miss Alice Furlong, and Mrs. Shorter (Dora Sigerson) also call for mention. They are among the best poets of our time. Of these M'Call is, I think, of Carlow and Wexford origin. I have mentioned Moore, but I have said nothing of one who transcends all those I have named—James Clarence Mangan, born in Dublin of Limerick and Meath parentage. Dublin, it will be seen, has done extremely well in poetry. It would be easy to name others, but enough is as good as a feast.

The same city and county have been equally prolific in dramatists. Sir Richard Steele, Thomas Southerne, Robert Jephson, Isaac Bickerstaffe, and John O'Keeffe, are amongst the best-known of the early names. Charles Maturin, John Brougham, Dion Boucicault, and others follow, and the list continues down to Oscar Wilde and George Bernard Shaw. Actors and actresses, too, abound. Spranger Barry, Mrs. Bellamy, Peg Woffington, Thomas Doggett, Robert Wilks, Mrs. Warner, John Drew, John Dyott, R. H. Wyndham, John Collins, Henry Mossop, Fanny Kelly, and Gustavus V. Brooke are the most important names in a long list. It is, perhaps, in music that Dublin holds its own most successfully. The name of Balfe comes first to one's recollection, but John Field, the originator of the nocturne (who was born in Golden Lane); Sir John Andrew Stevenson, composer of many admirable glees and songs; John Augustine Wade, a song-writer of considerable repute in his day; Michael Kelly, singer and composer; William Michael Rooke or O'Rourke, Thomas S. Cooke, and Thomas Carter to name only a few of the earlier names, have helped largely to give Dublin the reputation it holds as a musical city. Sir Robert Stewart, Francis and Joseph Robinson, Sir Charles Villiers Stanford, Barton McGuckin, P. A. Corri, Richard and William Levey, James Barton, Professor Glover, Victor Herbert (the last a notable man in America), Miss Hope Temple, and William Ludwig, are other musical celebrities not to be ignored.

To return to literature, Dublin has given us several of our best novelists. Charles Lever, though it is the fashion to decry him nowadays, is very unlikely to lose his position as the most popular of Irish writers of fiction. He remains, after all is said against him, the most eminently readable of story-tellers. The family of Samuel Lover was originally

from Cork (as the novelist's niece, still living, informs us), but he was born in Grafton street, Dublin (where Oetzmann's furniture establishment now stands). Lover is one of those remarkably versatile men whom it is difficult to place. I have included him among the novelists, but he is entitled to be mentioned as a composer, a poet, a dramatist and a painter. He was very successful in all these departments of human activity. Joseph Sheridan Lefanu, a member of a family quite remarkable in itself without reference to its connection with the Sheridans, has somewhat lost his former popularity as a novelist, yet there can be no denying his great power. His more serious work sometimes borders on melodrama, but he had the saving quality of humour, and his best stories, particularly "Through a Glass Darkly" and "The House by the Churchyard," will delight every reader. Mary F. Chapman, who wrote under the name of "J. C. Ayrton," is probably now forgotten. Dublin also gave birth to the brilliant Marmion Savage, whose writings are strangely unknown to his countrymen. I know no wittier story than "The Bachelor of the Albany," and though the tone of "The Falcon Family" may irritate the average Irish reader, no one will deny its author the possession of abundant wit. He wrote little, but his few books are amazingly clever. Charles Maturin and Lady Morgan, it is to be feared, are no longer read. Mrs. Cashel Hoey is another Dublin novelist of note. Mrs. Hinkson (Katherine Tynan) already mentioned as a poetess, devotes herself now chiefly to story-writing, and her fame as a novelist threatens to obscure her poetical reputation. Her husband, H. A. Hinkson, is also becoming a favourite writer of fiction. Delightful Jane Barlow, Bram Stoker, and Hannah Lynch must also be named. The recent death of Miss Lynch deprived Ireland of a most admirable romancist.



Among other writers of fiction to be mentioned here is the writer who uses the signature of "F. Norreys Connell." His real name is Conal Holmes O'Connell O'Riordan, and he has produced several novels, one of which, "The Fool and his Heart," has been not unfairly described as one of the best novels of our time. Then there are Mrs. Alexander, the clever author of "The Wooing O't;" Miss Ella MacMahon, Miss D'Esterre Keeling, and several others of considerable merit. Altogether, it may be said that Dublin has very notably distinguished herself in the novel. The very great number of eminent writers who owe their birth to Dublin, are of a very miscellaneous character. There are many poets, scholars, polemical and historical writers, but, proportionately, the novelists are fewer than one would expect.

The city and county has been the birthplace of many soldiers—few of whom have given any service to Ireland. Some of them are anything but *persone grate* to the Irish people generally. But in discussing such a question as this of the geographical distribution of Irish ability, it would be wrong to ignore distinction, however or wherever gained. The list of Dublin-born soldiers is a heavy one, and only a selection of the representative names can be given. Wellington, of course, comes first, if not in military skill, at least in reputation. Though his family had been settled in Meath for a long time, he was certainly not born there. But his Dublin birth has been so often disputed that it may be considered as more or less of an accident. No attempt can be made to give a chronological list of soldiers; I take them just as they occur to me. Lord William Cadogan, the founder of the present fortunes of the Cadogan family by his marriage with Sir Hans Sloane's daughter, was one of the most distinguished

of Marlborough's generals. An unfortunate Dublin man was Sir George Pomeroy Colley, killed by the Boers at Majuba Hill. Sir Henry Johnson, who won the battle of New Ross in 1798, was looked upon by his political chiefs as an ineffective sort of person, but he has that English victory to his credit, and it was considered by military experts one of the hardest fights ever fought. He is chiefly interesting now as having been an ancestor of Lionel Johnson the poet. An eminent Franco-Irish General was Charles Jennings, (afterwards Baron) Kilmaine, and Sir William Francis Napier, though better known as a military historian, was a skilful soldier. He was born outside Dublin, his famous brother, Sir Charles Napier, the conqueror of Scinde, having just missed the privilege. Sir William Napier was not only Irish-born, but he was decidedly Irish in feeling—a rare thing in a British soldier. The late General Sir Charles Frazer, V.C., was another distinguished native of Dublin. In the seventeenth century there are several important names, two of them, the great Duke of Ormond, and Richard Talbot, Duke of Tyrconnell, being remembered as much for their conduct of public affairs as for their military capacity. Yet Kilkenny has a claim on the Ormondes.

The greatest military glory of Dublin, however, was Patrick Sarsfield, who was not improbably born at Lucan. In any case his family was of Dublin. And his is a name that all Irishmen can honour. In our own time, perhaps, Viscount Wolseley claims first place. He has certainly seen much service on many fields. It must not be supposed that the above is more than a brief list of Dublin men who won fame as soldiers. It would be easy to name others, less familiar, like Sir John Caradoc (Lord Howden), Sir George Cockburn, General Sir William Nassau Lees, Field

Marshal the Earl of Lucan, General John Colpoys Haughton, Sir Ulysses Burgh (Lord Downes), Field Marshal Richard Molesworth, General Sir Thomas Reed, General Michael Smith, General R. H. Keating, V.C. ; General Sir J. F. Manners Browne, General Theobald Dillon, etc. But those named are in the front rank, and may serve as representative soldiers. Admiral Sir John Talbot, Commander John Spratt, Admiral Sir Thomas Ussher, and Admiral Sir Peter Parker, are notable seamen.

When we come to other men of action, we have names more dear to the Irish heart—Wolfe Tone (partly of Kildare family), Napper Tandy, Robert Emmet (who was, however, born after his father's arrival from Cork), and Lord Edward Fitzgerald, another Kildare man in part. Of patriots, Dublin has produced none more notable than these. Probably, also, the Rev. William Jackson was a native of Dublin. But the city has been most conspicuous as a literary centre from the earliest times. Literature and learning in all its forms have been largely identified with Dublin. From Richard Stanihurst and his son, and Father Henry Fitzsimons, the great Archbishop Ussher, and Sir James Ware, down to our own time, much Irish learning has come from Dublin. The names referred to are familiar, but there were also Dudley Loftus, Bishop John Stearne, the Rev. Michael Moore, D.D. ; the Rev. William Malone, Henry Dodwell, and Sir Richard Belling, whose works, whether historical or theological, redound to the credit of Irish scholarship. The name of Daniel Shea, the Orientalist, may also be noted. Archbishop Peter Talbot was one of the great figures in the learned Catholic world of his time. Later, Edmund Malone did as much as any one man to elucidate the Shakesperean plays and to illustrate the Elizabethan age. Dr. Thomas Leland,

Rev. Edward Ledwich, the Monck Masons (William especially), and Mervyn Archdall, each in their way, did good work in Irish history and genealogy. It is true that much of what Ledwich (for example) wrote has not stood the test of later methods of scholarship; but of his general learning there can be hardly a doubt. In classical scholarship and, especially as a commentator of Virgil, Dr. James Henry has a prominent place. Bishop Joseph Stock, Sir Daniel K. Sandford (of Irish parentage), Sir Graves Haughton, F.R.S., the Orientalist; the Rev. Frederick Nolan, F.R.S., and the late Bishop Charles Graves were all men of great learning. William Haliday's early death deprived Gaelic scholarship of a most promising figure. His brother's (Charles Haliday) learning was more general in its character, and the author of "The Scandinavian Kingdom of Dublin" deserves a niche among famous Dublin men. Coming to more recent times, one of the greatest Irish scholars, past or present, is undoubtedly Whitley Stokes, whose achievements rival those of Zeuss and Windisch. There are several ladies who also call for mention in view of their work in Irish fields. The late Miss Margaret Stokes did fine service in Irish archæology, and Mrs. Bryant, the brilliant author of "Celtic Ireland," and Miss Eleanor Hull, author of "Pagan Ireland," are worthy to be named with her. Mrs. Bryant is chiefly distinguished, however, for her educational work. Lady Ferguson, too, has given us in her "Ireland Before the Conquest" and the biography of her famous husband, proof of her knowledge of, and interest in, Irish studies. Three famous archæologists have so far not been mentioned. Dr. George Petrie, Sir John T. Gilbert, and Dr. J. H. Todd have left work of enduring value behind them. Their labours could not be summarised in a few lines, and the

merest allusion to them must suffice. To those who are at all acquainted with Irish history Sir John Gilbert's services need no blazoning. Dr. Todd's work for the Irish Archæological Society cannot be too highly esteemed. To Dr. Petrie, as artist, as musical antiquary, and as author of "*The Ecclesiastical Architecture of Ireland*," and "*The History and Antiquities of Tara*," Ireland owes eternal gratitude. The Rev. T. K. Abbott must also be named as a notable scholar.

In general historical knowledge, the late William E. H. Lecky holds an honoured place. His historical writings are admirable, and his "*History of Ireland in the 18th Century*" is a fascinating work. No book dealing with Irish history known to the present writer gives such evidence of deep knowledge of the sources of Irish history as this. By that work and the "*Leaders of Public Opinion in Ireland*," Lecky will be best remembered. Some other writers of more or less note may be also dealt with here. John P. Prendergast, Dr. Alexander G. Richey, and J. G. Swift McNeill, have done excellent work in Irish history, the first two especially. Archbishop Trench ranks as a poet of considerable charm, and his little books on the English language are deservedly popular. As a war correspondent, Sir William Howard Russell is at the head of his profession. The Rev. George Miller, author of some useful historical works, the Rev. J. C. Eustace, whose "*Classical Tour in Italy*," though bigoted, is still of considerable importance; William McCullagh Torrens, the biographer and publicist; Dr. Richard R. Madden (who may be claimed for Dublin), chronicler of the "*Lives of the United Irishmen*;" W. J. Fitzpatrick, a prolific writer of most readable historical and biographical gossip—these writers were also of Dublin origin. Mrs. Jameson, author of "*Legends of the Madonna*" and other admirable books,

and Miss Francis Power Cobbe, the humanitarian writer are two woman authors who belong to Dublin. Mrs. Crawford, the well-known special correspondent; Charles J. Dunphie, a pleasant essayist; John Sydney Taylor, and the Rev. Edward Mangin, clever authors in their several ways, may also be named.

Nor must the distinguished publicists of an earlier age be forgotten. The memorable William Molyneux, whose lead, as indicated in "the Case of Ireland Stated," Swift followed in his "Drapier's Letters," will always have a warm place in Irish affections. Robert Molesworth also occupied a high position in public affairs in his day. Samuel Madden, too, had patriotic views in advance of his time. Sir Philip Francis should, perhaps, be named among the statesmen, but as there can be hardly a shadow of doubt that he was "Junius," it may be well to introduce him here. Of statesmen, Burke and Grattan have been already mentioned, and their names speak for themselves. Other notable politicians hailing from Dublin were the first Marquis of Lansdowne (better known as Lord Shelbourne), Robert Rowan Moore, the economist and Corn Law Reformer; "Omniscient" Jackson, Sir Frederick Shaw, Anthony Malone, Lord Charlemont, Lord Cloncurry, Isaac Barré (a commanding figure in his day), the Right Hon. John Beresford, the ferocious Lord Clare (whose ability, however truculent, was at least equal to that of any of his contemporaries), and the first Earl of Mayo (Viceroy of India). Robert Holmes, more famous as an orator and advocate, was also a keen politician, and a patriot withal. But though born in Dublin, his family belonged to Belfast. Of lawyers and churchmen, Dublin has provided its share. But eminent Catholic ecclesiastics (with the very notable exceptions of the two Archbishop Kenricks, Edward O'Reilly, Archbishop of

Armagh in the 17th century ; Archbishop Patrick Russell, Cardinal McCabe, Archbishop Troy, and Archbishop Walsh) usually come from the country—a curious fact. Lord Chancellors Maurice Eustace, Maziere Brady, J. T. Ball, Baron Hughes, Baron Huddleston, and Baron Smith will suffice as examples of Dublin-born lawyers.

One most important branch of human achievement has yet to be dealt with. Scientific attainment is now and has been always much more common in Ireland than it is the fashion outside to remember or acknowledge. Considering her opportunities, she has rendered immense service to science, as will be demononstrated in this present investigation. Dublin naturally lays claim to some of our foremost scientific men. Taking the names at random, Sir William Rowan Hamilton, the great mathematician and inventor of quarternions, is one of the first to occur to the recollection. His work as a mathematician cannot be over-estimated. Sir Robert Ball, the astronomer, is another eminent scientist. Sir Robert Kane, and Sir Richard Griffith were distinguished as chemist and geologist respectively, and the reputation of the late Rev. George Salmon in mathematics was world-wide. Salmon's family, however, came from Cork Professor Henry J. Smith, F.R.S., was one of the most accomplished men of science of the last century. Sir Edward Sabine, a former President of the Royal Society, was famous for his experiments in electricity, and George Francis Fitzgerald's premature death robbed science of one of its most illustrious exponents. His researches in natural philosophy were epoch marking. Dr. Thomas Oldham, the geologist, and Dr. W. H. Fitton, also eminent in the same science, are too important to be overlooked. In chemistry, again, the name of Dr. J. K. Muspratt is of some account, and the popular labours of Dr. Dionysius Lardner are at

least worthy of record. John Ball, of Alpine fame ; Thomas Romney Robinson, the astronomer ; Bishop Hugh Hamilton, the mathematician (of country parentage) ; Sir Howard Grubb, the optician and maker of the great astronomical telescopes ; Robert Henry Scott, the meteorologist ; Alexander Macalister, F.R.S., the zoologist ; and Professor Emerson Reynolds, F.R.S., chemist, are other distinguished scientists of Dublin birth. I have not yet named Sir James Porter, F.R.S., who was offered the Presidency of the Royal Society ; Samuel Molyneux, F.R.S. ; Dr. Archibald Billing, F.R.S ; Dr. Joseph Dickinson, F.R.S. ; Robert Mallett, F.R.S., and his son ; Sir Frederick McCoy, F.R.S. ; Joseph O'Kelly, the geologist ; Alexander Mitchell and John Oldham, the engineers ; George J. Allman, F.R.S. ; Professor R. W. Genest, the mathematician, and some others. In medical and surgical science the names of Dublin men abound. Sir Thomas Molyneux, F.R.S. ; Dr. Robert McDonnell, F.R.S. ; Dr. E. D. Mapother, Sir G. H. Porter, Dr. Bryan Robinson, Dr. Gerald F. Yeo, F.R.S. ; Richard Carmichael, John Stearne, Valentine Flood, Sir Phillip Crampton, William Stokes, Robert James Graves, Robert Bentley Todd, and many others attest the high excellence of the Dublin schools of medicine and surgery. Sir Richard Graves McDonnell and George Higinbotham, the Australian statesmen ; Frederick E. Maning, the Maori Chief, afterwards a judge ; Sir C. H. Crosthwaite and his brother, the Indian officials ; Sir Walter Hely Hutchinson, the Hon. F. H. May, the Chinese official, and Sir J. F. Crampton, the diplomatist, must complete the list. It would not be difficult to add names in each of the branches of intellectual activity enumerated above, but enough evidence has been given to show that Dublin has always held a prominent position in intellectual achievement.



## CHAPTER II.—CORK.



IT will hardly be denied, when the details given in this work are considered—and they do not profess to be complete—that Cork stands first among Irish counties in intellectual development and output. Allowing for Dublin's exceptional position, it can hardly be said to equal the achievement of Cork. Deducting some of its greatest names, whose birth in Dublin is the only claim that city has upon them, it will be found that Cork is undoubtedly first. As in the case of Dublin it is difficult to select. One of the departments of human activity in which Cork has always done very well is that of art. Why this should be, except on the theory of infection, it is difficult to say. True, Cork is the largest county of Ireland, and its city is the capital of Munster, but there seems no special reason why Limerick and Waterford should have done so much less in similar walks. I do not suggest that Cork has produced many great artists, but it has been most prolific in the number of names which have to be recorded in the history of art in Ireland. To begin with, Daniel Maclise, R.A., the greatest of Cork artists, was of Scotch descent, but his personality was intensely Irish and Southern. He undoubtedly occupies a higher position in art than James Barry, R.A., whose pictures are now somewhat discredited. Maclise will always be notable for his masterly knowledge of drawing, as exemplified in his wonderful frescoes. His portrait sketches and designs will also

be held in esteem when certain sensational artists of later days are forgotten. His subject pictures have already ceased to attract, but his frescoes stamp him as a very great artist. James Barry's conceptions were noble and often grand, but it cannot be said that their execution is at all adequate. Alfred Elmore, R.A., was at one time a very notable painter, but though he did excellent work, his name does not now recall any special achievement. The branch of art in which Cork has been most distinguished is undoubtedly that of architecture. Such names as those of Sir Thomas Deane and his son, Sir Thomas Newenham Deane, Sir Richard Morrison, Sir Thomas Tobin, and George C. Ashlin, to mention but a few of the more prominent architects, will at once prove this. But there are other names of real note, Arthur Hill, the other Deanes before and since the two named, and James Cavanagh Murphy, whose great work in "Batalha" is a monument to his skill and taste.\* In painting, the names of Maclise, Barry, and Elmore have been given, but Cork has produced a large number of excellent artists. I do not dwell upon John Butts, Nathaniel Grogan, John O'Keefe, and John Corbett, as I am afraid they have been over-rated. But James Brenan; Philip Hussey, the portrait painter; Adam and Frederick Buck, the miniaturists; William Linnaeus Casey, Samuel Skillen, Wm. Willes, Samuel West, H. J. Thaddeus, William Magrath, and Samuel Forde have all done good work. The untimely death of the last-named deprived the country of an artist who had the seed of greatness in him. Nor should Richard Lyster the caricaturist; J. H. Millington, the portrait painter; and James

\* Batalha itself, curiously enough, was erected by an Irish architect—David Hackett.

Heffernan, the sculptor (actually born in Derry), be overlooked. The list I have given is by no means exhaustive, but it is representative. Robert Fagan, a first-class connoisseur in art, and something of an artist also, and his son, Louis Fagan, a good authority on engravings, and who was for some years keeper of the Prints in the British Museum, are also worthy of notice.

In literature Cork has splendidly asserted itself. Thackeray was struck with the intelligence of the Cork people when he was in Ireland, and saw many potential *litterateurs* in the Southern capital. He knew several notable Corkmen in London, and was perhaps more than usually interested when he visited their native haunts—concerning which it is to be presumed they had not been altogether silent. Francis Mahony (“Father Prout”), the inimitable William Maginn, and Crofter Croker were widely known and admired when Thackeray was in Ireland. But it is difficult to class them. Croker may be considered as a learned antiquary, with more humour than is usual among his brethren; “Prout” and Maginn were scholars and humorists—another rare combination. There were other writers of great ability or humour, or both, living in Cork at that same time, who did not venture beyond their own city, to which their reputation is even yet confined. Yet Henry Bennett, Samuel Gosnell, Father Matthew Horgan, Daniel Casey, and other local celebrities had quite as much wit and sense of style as many a more famous writer elsewhere. Dr. E. V. Kenealy was also writing then; his work is, however, more ingenious than brilliant, though it was welcomed by many of the leading periodicals. While Horace Townshend, John Windele, Richard Caulfield, and the Rev. Samuel Hayman chiefly concerned themselves with Cork history and antiquities; other Corkmen, like William Cooke

Taylor, Robert Bell, North Ludlow Beamish, F.R.S., Sir Richard Joseph Sullivan, F.R.S., Daniel Owen Madden, wrote for a wider audience, and wrote well, or, at any rate, readably. Bartholomew Simmons was writing admirable ballads, such as his "Napoleon's Last Look," and there were other men contributing to English rather than to Irish or Anglo-Irish literature, whose names are of less moment. John Francis Maguire may be named as one who contributed something to the literature of Ireland. Going back some years, one comes upon notable names—Richard A. Millikin, author of "The Groves of Blarney," being one of them—but of these J. J. Callanan was certainly the most important. He was the first writer to give a truly Irish flavour to the literature written in English. Of witty writers there were Eaton Stannard Barrett, whose satire—"All the Talents"—squelched an English Ministry, and Joseph O'Leary, who wrote one of the best Bacchanalian lyrics in the English language. In the eighteenth century, William Cooke, the friend of Goldsmith and author of "The Art of Conversation," the Rev. Arthur O'Leary, political and religious controversialist, the Rev. William Stawell, translator of Virgil, Rev. Temple Croker, translator of Ariosto, Rev. James Delacour, whose verse is very respectable for the eighteenth century, Frederick Pilon, the dramatist, and others unnecessary to name, have their place among the lesser lights of the time. Cork was not, needless to say, without its Gaelic writers, John M'Donnell ("Clarach"), John Murphy, Timothy O'Sullivan ("Tadhg Gaolach"), John O'Cullane, and many more giving evidence of its tenacity in Irish tradition as well as of its fine literary individuality. Cork has never been without its Gaelic enthusiasts—two of the most eminent Irish writers of the day being Father Peter O'Leary and Tadhg O'Donoghue,

while the death of the late Patrick O'Leary and Denis Fleming were a great loss to the native literature. Returning to the English writers of Cork origin, reference must be made to the Rev. Nicholas Brady, the author (with Tate) of the best-known versification of the Psalms. Of Cork poets the number is legion. Some of them have been mentioned incidentally, but the list is rather imposing. Thomas Davis stands easily first—in more respects than one he is among the greatest of Corkmen. Edward Walsh, though born in Derry by accident, may be fairly claimed by Cork, and to the credit of the same county stand also Francis Davis, Michael Joseph Barry, Joseph Brennan, William Dowe, Dr. John Anster, translator of "Faust," Ellen Mary Downing ("Mary"), John Edward Pigot, Ralph Varian, C. P. O'Connor, Mary O'Donovan Rossa, John L. Forrest, William B. Guinee (an excellent poet and story-writer, too little known), John Fitzgerald, Miss Colthurst, Denny Lane, and William Kenealy. T. D. Sullivan has written lyrics of world-wide fame, which give him a place among our best poets. The names of Eugene Davis and John Crawford Wilson may be added, and in more recent times Percy Somers Payne, whose verses beginning :—

"Silence sleeping on a waste of ocean,"

are remarkably good, showing the power of a writer whose very early death was generally deplored. Herbert Trench, one of the new Irish poets, is also a Corkman. I think it will not be disputed that the foregoing list of poets would be creditable to any county anywhere. It is quite possible, too, that I have omitted a few worthy names.

In the drama Cork does not stand very high. James Sheridan Knowles, among dramatists (and Pilon, already

mentioned), and Elizabeth Farren (the subsequent Countess of Derby), among actresses, are the most distinguished personages. Alexander Pope (known as an artist almost as much as in the drama) was a good actor, and Barry Sullivan may, of course, be considered a Corkman, but, with the possible exception of John Moody, who is supposed to have come from Cork, I can find little or nothing to connect Cork with a profession which has been always a favourite with Irishmen. Perhaps, however, I should name the clever son of an honoured father—Justin Huntly M'Carthy, who is certainly of Cork parentage, and has written in "My Friend, the Prince," "If I were King," etc., some extremely good plays. Miss Clo Graves has also produced a couple of successful pieces for the stage. These exhaust the record of Cork, so far as I can discover, in connection with the drama—a singularly limited record, it seems to me, for such a brilliant county. When we approach the domain of fiction, we naturally expect better results, and it must be admitted the output is more satisfying. Delightful Justin M'Carthy claims first mention. What a pity it is that his novels are not more widely read by his own countrymen. Their very titles are original and suggestive—"Dear Lady Disdain," "A Fair Saxon," "Donna Quixote," "My Enemy's Daughter"—could anything be happier? Both as historian and novelist, Justin M'Carthy has an assured place, and the history of journalism will not fail to describe his services in a profession in which Corkmen have been singularly successful. Standish O'Grady is unquestionably our greatest Irish romancist, and Father Sheehan is another notable writer of fiction—perhaps the most popular with the Irish people of all living Irish novelists. Mrs. L. T. Meade is, to judge by her amazing productiveness, in the happy position of being the

most popular of Irish story-tellers generally. Justin Huntly M'Carthy deserves a place here, also. The late Mrs. Hungerford wrote a number of excellent stories, much relished by women, and the present Mrs. Thurston bids fair to rival any of the feminine novelists in success. These are all Corkwomen. Miss E. Somerville, the witty collaborator of "Martin Ross," is another. Other Cork novelists and story-writers of the 'fair sex are the late Mrs. Hester Sigerson, Katherine Murphy (who, over the name of "Brigid," wrote admirable fiction between thirty and forty years ago), Sophie M'Intosh (only just beginning to be known), Julia O'Ryan, and Isabella Steward, author, now possibly forgotten. M. F. Mahony and Sir Randal Howland Roberts in the past, and William Buckley, author of the fine "Croppies Lie Down," in the present, are the only other Cork novelists I can recall. Frank Mathew's father was a Corkman, and his son has certainly written some striking stories. Other counties may have done better than Cork in this particular sphere.

But Cork has other feathers in its cap. In military capacity, Corkmen do not appear very conspicuous. The county produced a goodly number of soldiers, but other counties have done much better. The achievements of Cork have been mental, and mental of a special quality, rather than physical. And though the sea washes a good part of the coast, her seamen have not been very numerous or notable. Sir Richard Church, the "liberator" of Greece, as he has been called, who fought in the Greek war of independence, was one of the best of the military men of Cork, and General Arthur O'Connor, of '98 celebrity, had a distinguished career in the French service. It would have been more notable still but for the inveterate dislike of Napoleon to this officer, who, it must be admitted, was of anything but a likeable

disposition. General William Corbet, another eminent Franco-Irish soldier, was also a Corkman. In General Patrick Cleburne, Cork furnished the United States with a gallant soldier. To the British Army Cork contributed General Sir Robert W. O'Callaghan, General Sir William O'Grady-Haly, several Hely-Hutchinsons (Earls of Donoughmore), Sir Thomas Harte Franks, and others of inferior reputation. Justin McCarthy (Lord Mountcashel), and Captain Gerald Barry (who wrote a valuable account of the siege of Breda), are names of greater worth. Mountcashel's career was chiefly in Ireland, Barry's in Spain. Some of the standard books on English military tactics are the work of General Sir Cornelius F. Clery of the present day. Naval life and warfare does not seem to have greatly attracted Corkmen. Admirals Sir Robert Holmes and Sir John Holmes, his brother, are the only Cork seamen of note in the seventeenth century, Sir William Jumper (a queer name) being possibly also a Corkman. In the eighteenth century, Admiral Sir Edmund Nagle is the only naval celebrity of Cork origin. Admiral Sir Thomas Spratt comes later, as also does Admiral Sir Eaton S. Travers, and Admiral Edward W. Hoare, and at the present time the name of Admiral Charles Penrose Fitzgerald is the only one that suggests itself. Everything considered, Cork does not shine in this particular *métier*.

In statesmanship and administration it comes out well. Sir Francis Murphy, Sir Redmond Barry, and Sir James Martin are good instances from Australia of this, and I think Sir John Madden is another. Sir John Pope Hennessy (of Kerry origin) was a first-rate administrator of English Colonial possessions, as in the seventeenth century Sir William Hedges proved himself to be in Bengal. Sir Thomas Upington, the Cape Premier ;



Sir Henry J. Wrixon, the Australian lawyer ; and J. T. Woodroffe, of India, are other Corkmen who have achieved high Colonial positions. Sir Michael Gallwey and Sir John Franks were Colonial judges rather than administrators, but the duties are so intertwined that they are with difficulty separated. Sir William Foster Stawell is a case in point, that eminent Australian judge being virtually chief administrator. In Canada, Sir Francis Hincks occupied a commanding position—he was certainly one of the greatest of Irish Colonial statesmen. Robert Baldwin, another notable Canadian, was of Cork parentage, and J. N. Kirchhoffer must also be named in this connection. Henry Boyle, 1st Earl of Shannon ; the famous John Hely-Hutchinson, and Richard Boyle, the 2nd Earl of Cork, may be mentioned as English statesmen in Ireland of more or less renown. The first Earl of Egmont was also a Corkman, and his grandson, Spencer Percival, was Prime Minister of England.

Naturally lawyers from Cork have been abundant at all times. Perhaps Sir Richard Nagle, in the 17th century, is the most notable of the early limbs of the law. Alan Broderick, Lord Chancellor, who came a little later, founded his own fortunes and those of the Middleton family in general. I do not know whether to consider John Philpot Curran mainly as a lawyer, but this is a convenient place to mention him. To my mind he deserves scant praise for his public career—his patriotism is somewhat questionable, and though his gifts were remarkable his vicious character must always detract from his greatness. As an advocate, wit, orator, and even poet his brilliant qualities must be conceded, but his conduct in the Emmet business was deplorable, and his acceptance of the Mastership of the Rolls, after all his patriotic wrath against the British Government and the

Union, is a curious commentary on some of his earlier attitudes. Francis Stack Murphy, one of the English Sergeants-at-Law, was a wit of the same calibre, but not by any means so highly endowed as Curran. He succeeded very well at the English Bar, mainly by his wit. A very great lawyer was Sir James Shaw Willes—admittedly one of the ablest that ever sat on the English Bench. The present Sir James Mathew (a Corkman by extraction but not by birth) may be mentioned in the same category. Standish O'Grady (Viscount Guillamore), and Barry Yelverton (Lord Avonmore) are two famous Cork lawyers of a former generation, and Hugh, Lord Carleton, was equally noted, but with less genial qualities. Thomas Goold and John ("Bully") Egan must not be forgotten in the list. Lord Chancellor Sullivan Chief Baron Pigot, Lord Justice Deasy and Judge William O'Brien are the best recent instances of legal ability from Cork. The late John George MacCarthy is remembered rather as an able writer than as a lawyer.

Nothing has been said yet of some interesting personalities belonging to Cork. Thomas Addis Emmet, his brother, Christopher Temple Emmet (the latter, who died very young, being by far the most promising of the family) were born before their father removed to Dublin. Probably Cork could lay claim to the best known, if not the most brilliant member of the family—Robert Emmet. But it can undoubtedly claim Thomas Addis Emmet and his elder brother. Thomas Russell, too, and Henry and John Sheares were from Cork. Nobler types of men it would be difficult to find anywhere. In Fenian times, Peter O'Neill Crowley and O'Donovan Rossa merit a place among the men who have sacrificed themselves for their opinions. Descending into politics, the names of A. M. Sullivan (a brilliant journalist, a most graphic historical writer), William O'Brien,

and T. M. Healy spring to the mind. All are men of high literary ability, whose writings, such as they are, show what an immense force they might have been in literature. T. D. Sullivan has already been named. Other political figures of a less scrupulous type were Roger O'Connor and his worthy relative, Feargus O'Connor, the Chartist. The former was a very clever, but doubtful character, and Feargus O'Connor (really born in Meath), though sincere enough in his way, was a rather unconvincing person. His fellow Chartist, Lloyd Jones, also a Corkman, was of much finer mould, and a man of real worth.

Turning to literature again, there are many writers of more or less miscellaneous character to be dealt with. One of the most esteemed authors of the present time is Professor Edward Dowden, who, if he were a little more Irish in feeling, would occupy a much higher place in Irish opinion (and not a lower one in the opinion of the outside world). But he is a distinguished writer, and some of his literary work will remain. Other writers of more or less note, to name them promiscuously, were Sir Richard Cox, the historian; Bishop Reeves, the great Irish archæologist; the Rev. William Hales, author of "*The Irish Pursuits of Literature*," and a scholar of some mark; the Rev. William Hickey ("Martin Doyle"); the Rev. William A. O'Connor, author of the "*History of the Irish People*"; the Rev. Thomas England, biographer of the Bishop of the same name; the Rev. Michael B. Buckley, Denis O'Donovan, author of "*Memories of Rome*" (and now a prosperous official in Australia), and Dr. John Milner Barry. Among scholars and divines must be included the Rev. Edward Hincks, a learned Orientalist; Bishop John Dowden, and the Rev. Denis Murphy, S.J.

But the number of eminent prelates and clergymen

produced by Cork is legion. I have only space for a few names, Archbishop Croke, Archbishop Gould (of Melbourne), and Bishop England are distinguished instances in recent times—in the past were Archbishop Maurice O’Fihely, the Abbe Goold, an eminent Franco-Irish divine; and the Abbe McCarthy, the famous French preacher, was also of Cork extraction. The Most Rev. William Delany and Bishop Francis Moylan may also be added. The latter was one of the few Catholic prelates in favour of the Union. The Rev. Connor Mahony or O’Mahony, an eminent Jesuit of the 17th century, and the Rev. John Ponce, the Franciscan, are too important to be overlooked. The Protestant divines have been almost equally numerous. William Markham, Archbishop of York; Bishop John Gregg, Bishop Charles Dickinson, the Rev. Achilles Daunt, the Rev. Dr. Richard Parr, Archbishop Edward Synge, and Archbishop William Connor Magee are very representative examples. The Right Rev. Bishop Chatterton and the Rev. Richard T. Pope, Father Tom Maguire’s opponent, also call for mention. It must be put to the credit of Cork that it gave to Ireland Saint Colman, Saint Finbarr, Saint Molaga, Saint Cannera, and Saint Fiechtna, and to the same county also belonged the pious Mary Aikenhead and Nano Nagle. But, of course, it would be quite impossible to give an adequate notion of the numerous holy men and women bred in the county. The fact may be simply taken for granted.

Among the notable Cork scholars and writers must also be included Edward Viscount Kingsborough, whose great work on Mexican antiquities cost him a fortune; Edmund B. O’Callaghan, the American historian; Robert O’Callaghan Newenham (whose father, Sir Edward Newenham, was a prominent Irish politician and a member of the Irish Parliament); Jeremiah Daniel Murphy, an excellent classical

scholar, who died at a very early age ; Capt. James K. Tuckey, traveller and author ; Major Thomas H. S. Clerke, F.R.S., another military writer, and the present Augustus H. Keane, geographer and writer on Eastern subjects.

In general science and medicine Cork has also a very creditable record. Sir Robert Southwell, President of the Royal Society ; Dr. Robert Ball, F.R.S. and Francis Orpen Morris, the naturalists (both born in Queenstown), Francis Spring and Sir Francis L. O'Callaghan, the Indian engineers ; Robert Murphy, John Casey, F.R.S. ; Benjamin Williamson, F.R.S. ; Richard Townsend, F.R.S. ; and Michael Roberts, the famous mathematicians ; Thomas Hincks, F.R.S., zoologist ; Henry Hennessy, F.R.S. ; Richard Beamish, F.R.S., and Abraham Coates Fitzgibbon, the engineers ; Sir John Denis MacDonald F.R.S. ; Dr. W. K. Sullivan, Richard Barter, M.D. ; Dr. Robert S. Lyons, Dr. E. H. Bennett, Sir Joseph F. Olliffe, M.D. ; Dr. George James Allman, F.R.S. ; Capt. A. H. Moriarty, distinguished as a nautical writer ; Col. J. Lane-Notter, author of numerous valuable works on hygiene ; Professor C. Y. Pearson, Dr. George Saunders, the army surgeon ; J. P. Ronayne, engineer and politician ; the Rev. William Spotswood Green, an expert on fisheries ; William Bowles, the eighteenth century naturalist ; Sir William Brouncker, F.R.S. (Viscount Castlelyons), the first President of the Royal Society ; and, lastly Cornelius O'Sullivan, F.R.S., the eminent living expert on brewing. Dr. Jones Quain and his more famous son, Sir Richard Quain, must also be included. The later Sir Richard Quain was equally eminent in medicine. These names are given at random and may not convey much meaning to those who are unacquainted with the history of scientific progress. But they are nevertheless important. I am inclined to add Miss Agnes M. Clerke to the list, for she is

certainly from the South, and more than probably from Cork, and as a distinguished astronomer and writer on astronomy she has her place in scientific annals. Let me conclude by saying that in political economy Cork can claim Thomas Newenham, so highly praised by Mr. Lecky in his "History of Ireland in the 18th Century;" Mountifort Longfield, who eventually became a judge, and the present Professor C. F. Bastable, whose "Theory of International Trade" and other works give him a high place among economists. Finally, it must be confessed that in music Cork compares unfavourably with other parts of Ireland. Dr. Philip Cogan, the eminent 18th century composer; Paul McSwiney, William Forde, William Vipond Barry, Henry Robinson Allen, the vocalist, and Alexander Roche are the only musicians who can be identified with Cork, and their names are not awe-inspiring. Denis O'Sullivan, however, is of Cork parentage, and his name considerably enhances the record. I ought to have mentioned earlier Thomas Delaune, the non-juror and author; Percival Barton Lord, the traveller and Indian political agent; John "Zion" Ward, the mystic; William Thompson, one of the earliest of socialists and co-operators, and Dr. Thomas Taylor, the botanist, who was, I think, a Corkman. It will not be denied that altogether Cork has done marvellous things.

## CHAPTER III—ANTRIM.



ANTRIM is probably not the most important of the northern counties intellectually, but it holds the capital, and Belfast is commercially great. It has also produced a number of famous people, but as portion of the city is in county Down, I may possibly fall into error in crediting most of the eminent natives of Belfast to Antrim. But I shall be glad to be corrected if any County Down reader finds me filching anything from his glorious county—by far the most distinguished in Ulster, I think. I will assume, then, where the question is doubtful, that a Belfast man is an Antrim man, and will credit him to that county. Down can well afford to lose a few of her clever sons to Antrim.

One of the things which is common in both Antrim and Down is the large proportion of Presbyterian divines who belong to these counties. Many of them were undoubtedly very able men, but the intellectual result is rather disappointing. They figured largely in their day, and were held in high esteem by their congregations, but the learning bequeathed by them is not very valuable. Their interests were chiefly theological, and few of them were profound scholars. They were mostly excellent, pious men, with large or small gifts as preachers, and as they are recorded with considerable praise in the recognised biographical authorities, it is only right to notice many of them. Antrim has given a good muster of divines to the Presbyterian

Church. The names of the Rev. William Bruce, the Rev. James Duchal, the Rev. J. T. McGaw, the Rev. Robert Magill, the Rev. Hugh McNeile, the Rev. Henry Montgomery, the Rev. Samuel M. Stephenson, the Rev. Andrew Stewart, the Rev. John Paul, the Rev. William Hanna, the Rev. Samuel Hanna, Rev. T. Young Killen, the Rev. Wm. Hamilton, the Rev. Alex. Campbell, the Rev. William Gibson, the Rev. John Murray, and the Rev. Samuel B. Wylie, the best known among them, will convey nothing to the average Irish mind, but to the worthy Presbyterians of the North they mean a good deal. They were undoubtedly men of some weight in the religious, and often in the political, world in which they moved. A few other clergymen may be mentioned who hail from Antrim, some of whom are known outside the borders of Ulster. One of these is the Rev. William Crawford, author of a creditable "History of Ireland," published in Strabane in the last quarter of the eighteenth century; another is the Rev. William D. Killen, a capable writer on Presbyterian history; then there is the Rev. William Hamilton Drummond, an excellent poet (whose sons have distinguished themselves in the English religious world) with some tendency towards National feeling, as may be observed in his "Ancient Irish Minstrelsy," and other works; the Rev. John Gwynn, of T.C.D., a first-rate classical and biblical scholar, and father of several clever sons; and the Rev. Thomas Hamilton, a man of broad views and great ability, who is the present President of the Queen's College, Belfast. The two greatest names, however, are those of the Archbishop William King, so highly esteemed by Swift, and one of the ablest Irishmen of his age, and the Rev. Philip Skelton, a writer and speaker of considerable power. Skelton and King tower high over many of the Protestant theologians and



administrators of their time. It is curious to meet with a notable Presbyterian named Jeremiah O'Quinn, yet this particular divine of the seventeenth century was one of the foremost men of his calling and enjoyed a considerable reputation. But theologically the work of these Antrim divines does not count for much in the world. Many of those named have a merely local reputation.

The county has, however, produced remarkable lawyers—some of whom were, indeed, rather political than legal notabilities—and a few representative men may be indicated. Sir Joseph Napier, and Thomas (Lord) O'Hagan were both Irish Lord Chancellors, the latter a Catholic and an eminent advocate. Sir Joseph Napier took a prominent part in the Church of Ireland discussions, and was an able writer. Lord O'Hagan was rather more literary in his tastes. William Saurin was one of the foremost lawyers of the early nineteenth century. The late Lord Chief Justice May was another eminent Antrim lawyer, while the present Lord Macnaghten is considered one of the best lawyers of the day. One of the busiest barristers in London at the present day is R. A. McCall, K.C., a native of Lisburn.

In science, Antrim is naturally distinguished; though the record is possibly less remarkable than many may have concluded. Lord Kelvin (formerly Sir William Thomson) is probably the most eminent scientific man Belfast has produced, but his family is unquestionably of County Down origin. His brother, the late James Thomson, F.R.S., was also a noted scientist. Thomas Andrews, F.R.S., was a first-rate chemist; John Robinson McClean, F.R.S., was a distinguished engineer, and his son, Frank McClean, F.R.S., is eminent in the same profession and in astronomy. The present secretary of the Royal Society, Joseph Larmor,

F.R.S., now Lucasian Professor at Cambridge in succession to Sir Gabriel Stokes, is also an Antrim man; so were Robert Patterson, Charles Telfair, John Templeton, Dr. Robert Templeton, William Thompson, and Roger Henedy, the naturalists; and Robert Adrian, the mathematician. There are also Professor E. Hull, F.R.S.; Osborne J. Reynolds, F.R.S.; J. T. Bottomley, F.R.S.; Professor A. E. Dixon, Professor J. R. Leebody, and Professor George T. Locke. Possibly, too, Professor A. C. Dixon, F.R.S., is a native of Antrim. It should be added that the famous chemist, Dr. Joseph Black, was of Belfast origin paternally. The list, it will be seen, is a very strong one, and reflects great credit on Antrim.

Military men from Antrim do not abound, in this showing a remarkable contrast to Co. Down. Far and away the greatest of its soldiers was Sir John Nicholson, of Indian Mutiny fame. He has been deified by some Indian tribes, who looked upon this dread warrior as a god. He was certainly an extraordinary man. Sir John Clotworthy, of seventeenth century renown, and General M'Carthy, of the same period, are the only two British soldiers of early times I can find who are worthy of record, and this is the place to include John, the first Viscount O'Neill, Sorley Boy M'Donnell, and Sir Neill O'Neill. General Brent Spencer, Sir Charles Rowan (afterwards First Commissioner of the London Police), his brother, Field Marshal Sir William Rowan, and General W. J. Smythe, F.R.S., were eminent in modern days; and of notable soldiers now living Field Marshal Sir George White and General Sir Hugh M'Calmont are the only two belonging to Antrim. Of statesmen there have been two or three eminent examples. George (Earl) Macartney was, everything considered, the greatest of them.

He was certainly an extraordinarily able statesman and diplomatist, and he fills a very large space in the history of his time. Sir Alexander MacDonnell was another administrator of some note in recent times. Sir James Emerson Tennant, F.R.S., must also be named with the highest praise, and Professor James Bryce holds a very prominent position among the statesmen of our own time. Chief Justice Sir Hiram Wilkinson is an eminent lawyer in China. Of naval men I may refer to Admiral John MacBride in the past, and Admiral R. N. Custance in the present.

Literature has appealed more successfully to Antrim than Irish people are generally supposed to admit. Sir Samuel Ferguson is one of our greatest poets, and his prose, including the amusing "Father Tom and the Pope," is very varied and interesting—the "Hibernian Nights' Entertainments" being the best known of his works. As an archæologist he also ranks very high. The late Daniel MacAleese wrote exquisite verse, some of which should certainly be collected from the various scattered periodicals in which it appeared. Joseph William Mackay also had a real gift. George Fox, author of the beautiful English version of "The County of Mayo," was also a Belfast man, and an intimate friend of Ferguson. The lamented Anne MacManus belonged to Belfast, but now belongs, like Ferguson, to all Ireland. Thomas E. Mayne, a promising young poet, was also taken too early. Dr. William Drennan and James Orr were as national in sentiment as if they came out of the heart of Kerry or Mayo. James M'Kowen was thoroughly racy of the soil in the national sense. "Moira O'Neil" is, I think, from Antrim too, and she is worth many writers in herself. One of the newest, and one of the best of recent Irish writers, John Stevenson,

also probably hails from the same part of the country. David Herbison and Samuel K. Cowan must not be overlooked, and James H. Cousins is also, I believe, a Belfast man. In the novel, Elizabeth Hamilton, author of "*The Cottagers of Glenburnie*;" Dr. James M'Henry, author of "*The Hearts of Steel*" and other romances; Rosa Mulholland (*Lady Gilbert*) and her sister, Clara Mulholland; Mrs. Riddell, a notable name, second only to that of Rosa Mulholland among Antrim writers, and Mrs. Pender, have all had and have their large circle of readers.

In general literature one of the cleverest of Belfast men was John Fisher Murray, whose biting satirical novel "*The Viceroy*," is undeservedly forgotten, but whose poems and sketches may be still remembered. In the seventeenth century, Richard Head, the dramatic writer and author of "*The English Rogue*," has a good place, and he was almost certainly of Antrim origin, if not born in the county. Other eminent men were Arthur Dobbs, the economist; Francis Dobbs, poet and dramatist; David Manson, the educationalist; the late Rev. George Hill, author of valuable historical works; Charles Hamilton, the Orientalist; Baron McGuckin de Slane, the Arctic Scholar; Dr. Thomas Hancock; Sir James Prior, the biographer of Goldsmith, Malone, etc.; Hugh Macaulay Boyd, the publicist, one of the reputed authors of the "*Letters of Junius*," and his son, Hugh Stuart Boyd, classical scholar and Greek tutor of Elizabeth Barrett Browning; William Pinkerton, the antiquary; Samuel M'Skimin, the historian of Carrickfergus; Alexander H. Haliday, the friend and correspondent of Lord Charlemont; while, coming to our own day we have James Douglas, the critic; A. B. Filson Young, a prominent journalist; Ronald M'Neill, the well-known London editor; Rev. H. J. Lawlor, the ecclesiastical

historian ; Professor R. K. McElderry, the scholar ; Samuel S. M'Clure, the American publisher, and Sir James Henderson, a prominent journalist. It should be stated that the parents of James Montgomery, the poet (who was born by accident in Scotland) were from Antrim, and that the famous Hazlitts were originally Antrim people who settled in Tipperary. Francis Joy, the printer, should also be named. I have said nothing of the great commercial magnates, but Sir William Brown, the banker and philanthropist ; Alexander Turney Stewart and Sir Donald Currie deserve at least a passing reference.

So far there has been no allusion to the heroic United Irishmen who have shed so much lustre upon Antrim. James Hope, Bartholomew Teeling and his brother (the author of a valuable account of the '98 rebellion) ; Henry Monro, W. P. M'Cabe, Henry Joy M'Cracken, William Orr, and the Rev. William Steele Dickson are memorable names for Antrim and for Ireland. These half-dozen men, from the point of view of human progress, are worth many other "illustrious natives." The late J. G. Biggar, M.P., also deserves special mention here. I recall one Antrim saint, Comgall, and one notorious malefactor, John MacNaghten, a cool desperado, hanged in 1761. Sir James Weir Hogg and Sir William Owen Lanyon deserve a place in this record as prominent public officials, and John Ballance, the late Premier of New Zealand ; Prof. Richard Smyth, a noted politician and a pioneer of Sunday Closing ; and Alexander MacDonnell, one of the greatest of chess-players, must naturally be included. To art, Antrim has given Patrick MacDowell, R.A., and Peter Turnerelli, the sculptors ; Sir Thomas Drew, Capt. Francis Fowke (who designed the Albert Hall, South Kensington Museum, and Albert Memorial, in London), the architects ; John Lavery,

painter of the Glasgow School, and Hugh Newell, the American artist. Antrim's sole contributions to music, so far as I can discover, are Andrew Ashe, the celebrated flautist, and Thomas Hastings Crossley, a clever amateur. Other notable people of Antrim origin were Bishop Tenison ; Bishop Edward Smyth ; Claudius Gilbert, jun., a Protestant controversialist of the earlier eighteenth century ; Major Charles Stewart, the Orientalist ; Robert Caldwell, Bishop of Madras and an eminent scholar ; Sir William McCormac, the famous surgeon ; the Rev. Alexander Campbell, founder of the Campbellites ; and Dr. James Lawson Drummond, the anatomist. Living celebrities include Dr. Traill, Provost of Trinity College ; Wallis Mackay, the artist and author ; James and John Ward, writers on art ; William Mackay, novelist and journalist ; and John McNeill, the Irish scholar.

## CHAPTER IV.—DOWN.



KNOW of no particular reason why Down should be a better nursery of distinguished people than most other northern counties, but that it is so the present chapter may prove. Its natives have come to the front in all forms of achievement, and particularly in what may be called administrative capacity. In art it holds only a small place. Thomas Kirk, R.H.A., the sculptor; Helen M. Trevor, an admirable painter, and John Boyne, the caricaturist, are the only artists from Down that I can discover, unless John B. Yeats, R.H.A., who was, I believe, born in the county, may be added. But I have dealt with him in the chapter on Sligo. But of military capacity and administrative ability this county has given abundant proof. Some of its most famous names, however, recall anything but pleasing recollections. Robert Stewart, the Marquis of Londonderry, who is best remembered as Viscount Castlereagh, is not an Irishman whose exploits his countrymen can admire. But he was one of the most dominant figures of his time, and though he first "cut his country's throat and then his own," his services were considered to be specially valuable to England, where, however, he was almost as unpopular as in Ireland. To give even the devil his due, he was not without his good qualities, but his capacity for evil has quite obliterated his better side. His brother Charles, the third Marquis of Londonderry, was a brilliant soldier and an excellent historical writer. Another family of considerable note, whose connection with the county Down is, however, much slighter, was that of the Strangfords, of whom at least

three were eminent personages. The sixth Viscount was not alone a skilful diplomatist, he is known as a poet and as translator of Camoens, the Portuguese poet. Byron praises him in "English Bards and Scotch Reviewers." The seventh Viscount was a most distinguished statesman, and also a poet and essayist of some merit; while the eighth Viscount made valuable contributions to philology and ethnology, though he died before his full powers were properly displayed. Francis Rawdon, Lord Moira (afterwards Marquis of Hastings) was not only a great soldier; he is ranked among the ablest of Indian administrators. In county Down men, military and governing capacity seem to be combined — a not too common combination — General Richard Kane, the famous Governor of Minorca, being an instance. Sir Arthur E. Kennedy was another eminent Colonial ruler; Sir Patrick Jennings had a notable career in Australia; and the present William H. Irvine, nephew of John Mitchel, has also reached the highest distinction in that self-governed colony. The late Marquis of Dufferin is perhaps at the head of the statesmen and administrators. His literary work alone would entitle him to a high place in this record.

Of soldiers renowned for military genius, Down has produced quite a number. Sir Henry Pottinger was eminent both in military affairs and as an administrator, and Major Eldred Pottinger's brief career was equally notable. Guy Johnson, the American soldier, and Sir William Johnson, his uncle, fought bravely on different sides. But perhaps the most notable of those who fought on the British side in the American War of Independence was General Robert Ross of Bladensburg, for he was one of the few who obtained a victory over the Americans. Mention must also be made of gallant Sir Robert Rollo Gillespie, a formidable soldier,



who, like Ross, fell in battle. General William E. Reilly; Marcus Trevor, 1st Viscount Dungannon, a noted military engineer; General Sir Francis Seymour, General Sir J. B. Savage, Colonel Francis Forde, and General Charles Cornwallis Chesney were other eminent Down men. The latter's father, General Francis Rawdon Chesney, was, apart from his military fame, one of the greatest explorers and travellers of the nineteenth century. General Sir G. T. Chesney, another distinguished member of the family, was a very clever writer, and his "Battle of Dorking" is well known.

In the building up of the British Empire Down has had no small part. At the present moment there are many natives of the county holding important positions in various parts of the world. I do not know if Mr. M'Leavy Brown, of Korea, is one, though I suspect he is; but Sir John N. Jordan, the Minister to the Korean Court, certainly is, as also is the late British Minister at Montenegro, Robert J. Kennedy. Sir Edmund Fitzgerald Law, of the Indian Civil Service, is another eminent Down man; the Hon. James M'Gowan, a prominent New Zealand politician, is another; and W. T. Hall, the Financial Commissioner at Burmah, also hails from the same county. To continue the list of officials, Sir John Ross of Bladensburg, author of a couple of military histories, and present Commissioner of the Dublin Police, has held various important appointments in the East; his relative, Sir Edward C. Ross, a distinguished Persian scholar, has also obtained a high official recognition and reward in the East.

The mention of office reminds one of the lawyers, and of these Earl Cairns is foremost. He was probably greater as a lawyer than as a statesman, though he held very great political offices. As English Lord Chancellor, however, he is likely to be longest remembered. Hugh Law, Lord Chan-

cellor of Ireland in recent times, was also of Down origin, and, needless to say, the late Lord Russell of Killowen was one of the greatest men ever produced by the said county. As a judge and as an advocate his like will hardly be seen again in our century. Mr. Justice Andrews and W. R. M'Connell, the distinguished London lawyer and judge, are also from Down. The county has given us some politicians of considerable reputation—John Martin being the most interesting from an Irish point of view ; but there will be a friendly feeling evoked at the name of the late William Johnston, of Ballykilbeg, a sincere and honest personality. William Sharman Crawford's efforts to relieve the Irish tenants from some of their disabilities deserves due recognition, and an earlier figure, Edward S. Ruthven (whose real name was Trotter and whose brother is named further on) was also prominent in Irish politics. So was Arthur Hill Trevor, the 3rd Viscount Dungannon. Archibald Hamilton Rowan, of '98 fame, caused more stir than his actual services justified, but his career is probably better known than that of his much sturdier colleague, Samuel Neilson. E. J. Newell, the spy, was also a native of County Down, but of immediate Scottish origin. Isaac Corry, a leading figure in the Irish Parliament, was, in some respects, one of the most strenuous personalities of his time, and, finally, a prominent politician of a few decades ago was George Alexander Hamilton, M.P. Having mentioned the not very romantic E. J. Newell, it is necessary to name a still more shady person, namely, Francis Higgins, the "Sham Squire." They have occupied too large a share of public attention to be over-looked. Theirs was an ability which deserves every discouragement.

Some men of action more than worthy of remembrance have not been named so far. One is Captain Francis

Rawdon Crozier, the Arctic explorer, to whom a monument has been erected in his native Banbridge; another is Alexander Hamilton Hume, the Australian explorer, who was of County Down family. Among the diplomatists should be included Richard, 3rd Earl of Clanwilliam. The most distinguished of the seamen from the county have been Admiral Sir Henry Blackwood, Capt. Johnston Blakely, Admiral the present Earl of Clanwilliam, and John Lennon, R.N., each of whom had a creditable record of service. Strangely enough science is not specially noticeable in the record. Sir Hans Sloane, F.R.S., is the greatest name; but, then, it is a very great name in science. The founder of the British Museum, Sloane was one of the most illustrious of the European savants of the eighteenth century. Another man, of less importance in himself, but to be remembered as the father of Lord Kelvin, was Dr. J. J. Thompson, author of various school arithmetics and other works, and a competent scientist in his way. George K. Lowry, the famous American inventor; Dr. William Reid Clanny, author of some useful inventions, including an ingenious safety-lamp; Dr. James Sims, a medical writer of repute; Dr. Robert Perceval (whose family belonged to Down), a distinguished physician; Sir Robert A. Chermiside, M.D.; the late William Archer, F.R.S., and the present John Brown, F.R.S., who have both done excellent scientific work, are the only other people of any importance in science and medicine, with the exception of Professor Richard J. Anderson, the anatomist, and Professor James Little, the well-known physician.

From the literary point of view, the record of the county is very creditable. Perhaps the most important name is that of Francis Hutcheson, the philosopher, whose writings rank high in the literature of thought. Professor T. Cliffe Leslie, the eminent political economist, was not a native,

but he was closely connected with the county, his family being from thence. The novelists are fairly representative and numerous, and include W. H. Maxwell, the originator of the novels of military life; Captain Mayne Reid, whose thrilling stories of scalp-hunting and Red Indians have warmed the imaginations of generations of boys; Miss May Crommelin, a clever writer of the present day, and Robert Cromie, a well-known contemporary. Samuel R. Keightley is also of Co. Down origin. Here I may recall the well-known fact that the Rev Patrick Bronte, the father of the famous sisters—Charlotte, Emily, and Anne Bronte—was a native of Down, and most of the characteristics of these writers were unmistakably of the Celtic type one meets with in that part of Ireland. Patrick Bronte was something of a poet, but wrote in the Scotch rather than in the Irish manner. The name was originally O'Prunty. His native county has produced some very good poets. Thomas Caulfield Irwin was the best of these, and a selection from that excellent writer would make a very valuable and choice volume. John O'Hagan's patriotic lyrics are familiar to most Irishmen, and here again it is rather a pity that they have not been issued in a collected form. Father Matthew Russell's is a name which means much to Catholic readers—few even of them know the extent of his services to Irish literature; Terence M'Mahon Hughes and William Read are poets whose names are practically unknown nowadays, but they both wrote good verse in the earliest part of the nineteenth century, and the first-named was a very able journalist and author of some interesting prose works, such as his "Revelations of Spain." Mrs. Alessie Bond Faussett is the most notable of the poetesses of Down. William (not James, as is generally stated) M'Burney wrote the stirring "Croppy Boy" and other strong poems over the

pseudonym of "Carroll Malone." I have an idea that Dr. James Arbuckle, the 18th century poet, was from Down. He was unquestionably from that part of the country, and not a Scotchman. He was editor of the "Dublin Journal" and a vivid political writer. The Rev. Samuel Pullein, a poet and scientific writer of the same period, may have been a Co. Down man. Possibly, too, the Rev. Henry Boyd, the translator of Dante, was from the same county. It is a little difficult to say precisely from what part of Ulster Boyd came. Richard Peers, a 17th century poet, and Thomas Stott, indicated in Byron's "English Bards and Scotch Reviewers" may also be named.

Other writers and scholars who must be named are the Rev. Edward Berwick, the translator of "Apollonius of Tyana" and other works; the Rev. Samuel Burdy, the biographer of Philip Skelton; Count Henry Russell, the French traveller (of Co. Down family); the Rev. Thomas Croskery, a voluminous and learned miscellaneous writer; the late Rev. William Wright, a learned traveller and miscellaneous writer; the Rev. William Neilson, classical and Irish scholar and the author of an admirable Irish grammar; the Rev. Dr. Abraham Hume, a learned antiquary; Robert Sullivan, LL.D., writer and compiler of many educational works; John Bernard Trotter, the secretary of C. J. Fox, and an entertaining author; Charles Johnston (son of the late William Johnston of Ballykilbeg), who is now in America, and is engaged on an important study of Hindoo literature; William Bruce, and the Rev. James Mark Saurin Brooke of London, authors of several works of some repute. The founder of the *Northern Whig*, Francis D. Finlay, ought not to be overlooked in a survey of this kind, and perhaps I should name Mrs. Sarah Grand, author of "The Heavenly Twins," who was born in Donaghadee of English parents.

Of divines, Presbyterian and otherwise, there are many. Some of these wrote books of some popularity—they were mostly theological and controversial, and do not call for special mention. Bishop Edward Parry is the most eminent of the Protestant divines of Co. Down. The Rev. James Armstrong, the Rev. Fletcher Blakely, the Rev. James Bruce, the Rev. Michael Bruce, the Rev. William Campbell, the Rev. Alexander Colvill, the Rev. Alexander P. Goudy, the Rev. John Boucher, the Rev. Robert Watts, the Rev. William B. Kirkpatrick, the Rev. Gilbert Kennedy, the Rev. John Kidd, the Rev. A. G. Malcolm, the Rev. John Mears, and (I think) the better known Rev. John Edgar and the Rev. John M'Bride—these are all names of men who were of considerable weight as preachers and authors in their own particular spheres. Down has also given some notable Catholic ecclesiastics to the world. The greatest were the famous Hugh M'Caghwell, Archbishop of Armagh; Archbishop William Crotty; the Most Rev. Patrick Dorrian; Bishop Thomas Grant, whose life has been written by Kathleen O'Meara, and the Very Rev. Charles W. Russell, an eminent theologian and scholar, who was largely instrumental in converting John Henry Newman to Catholicity.

In music and the drama, there is not much to say for the county. Mrs. Glover, the eminent comic actress, was the only notable figure so far as the drama is concerned, unless Master Betty, "the infant Roscius," was of Co. Down origin. W. J. Lawrence, author of much valuable matter appertaining to the drama, should be named in this connection. Mrs. Glover's son, William Howard Glover, was a distinguished composer, and to Down also belongs the rising young musician, Hamilton Harty.

## CHAPTER V.—SLIGO.



AS there is no particular reason why the counties should be treated according to their importance or otherwise, I propose to deal with Sligo in this chapter. Sligo is in a part of Ireland which is not remarkably prominent in achievement. I do not refer to Connaught in general, for that province, everything considered, has done extremely well, but rather to that part of Ireland, which includes Sligo, Roscommon, Leitrim, Cavan, and Longford, a district which, though not intellectually on a level with more favoured territory, has yet added considerably to the reputation of Ireland generally. Sligo has some very distinguished names to its credit. Douglas Hyde, though not properly belonging to the county, was born within its borders. Curiously enough, the famous Charles O'Connor, the antiquary, who really belonged to Roscommon, was born in the very same place as Dr. Hyde—Kilmactranny. The fact remains that they are Sligo men by birth. Of Dr. Hyde, it is impossible to speak without appearing to exaggerate. What he has done for the language movement and the Irish revival generally is past telling. Accepting him as a Sligo man, he is unquestionably the greatest of its literary worthies. As poet, folk-lorist, and literary historian, he occupies a unique place in contemporary literature. His ceaseless labours in the cause of an Irish Ireland are a wonder and an inspiration. The name of the other scholar named—Charles O'Connor—suggests similar

thoughts. There the one man seems to have done the work of several in the Ireland of his day. His historical researches did much to raise Ireland in the estimation of Europe—he was a pioneer. Dr. Johnson was much impressed by the labours of the O’Conor family, other members of which will be noticed in the chapter on Roscommon. Perhaps, as scholars have been mentioned, this is the best place to mention the names of other Sligo men who have won renown in scholarship. The Most Rev. Dr. Healy, Archbishop of Tuam, is a worthy successor of John MacHale. In his “Ireland’s Ancient Schools and Scholars” and other writings, he has been working in the same field as the patient and illustrious investigators of Ireland’s history whose chief purpose has been to reveal the glorious past of the country—to show what civilization and progress owe to the Island of Saints and Scholars. Archbishop Healy ranks with the great savants who have placed Ireland in her true historical position and value before the world.

To Sligo we also owe other notable Irish scholars and writers. Owen Connellan, translator of the “Annals of Ireland,” and author and editor of other works, was one of these, as also was Thaddeus Connellan, whose services were almost equally useful. Greater than all was the illustrious Donald MacFirbis, whose work is second in importance only to that of the Four Masters. What kind of Ireland would this be without the exertions of such men as MacFirbis and his colleagues! If they had not rescued and preserved the facts of our history for us, we should be still regarded as the barbarians we appeared to be to the Fynes, Morysons and other ignorant and credulous or prejudiced tourists of early times. Dr. Andrew Donlevy must also be given a niche here. He stands high among the Irish writers of the seventeenth century. Nor must



the eminent Dominican, the Rev. Ambrose O'Connor, be overlooked, and the Most Rev. Patrick Duncan, a distinguished prelate, may also be named.

Curiously enough, Sligo has produced no poet, with an exception to be shortly mentioned, of surpassing merit. Miss Eva Gore-Booth and Miss Susan Mitchell have recently written, however, some excellent poems. The exception I refer to is of course W. B. Yeats, who is of Sligo origin, though not born in the county. He was born near Dublin, but I believe he considers himself a Sligo man. His people are certainly connected with that county, and most of his inspiration has been derived from it, as much of his early life was spent there. Whatever may be thought of Mr. Yeats's opinions on certain subjects, he stands absolutely in front of all living Irish poets in the general opinion of critics. His first volume, "*The Wanderings of Oisín and other Poems*," was a revelation to many. Many people will prefer that little book to all he has published since. His mastery over verse and his imaginative power have greatly developed since 1889, when the book referred to was published, but there is a haunting beauty and simplicity in his early poems which all the art and cunning of a later time have not superseded. Yeats is a signed triumph for Sligo. He and Hyde between them have practically called into being the present literary activity of Ireland—that is no small achievement for a single county.

The only other Sligo poet I wish to refer to is the estimable Canon Casey, whose poems, whether on temperance or pious subjects, have been deservedly popular. The humour of some of his verse is genuine and racy, and he has put into genial rhyme many great truths and wise reflections. Kane O'Hara is hardly a poet in the general sense; he was a librettist, and an astonishingly good one. His "*Midas*,"

"Golden Pippin," and "Tom Thumb" are important as being the earliest burlesques, as we understand that term nowadays. He was also a capable musician. His position in the history of the drama is assured. Charles Phillips wrote a poem called "The Emerald Isle," tags from which O'Connell was very fond of quoting in his speeches, but it is to be feared that the verses thus utilised are the only ones that could be turned to account in any way. His verse was as flowery as his oratory, which was immensely popular, but rather frothy. His considerable reputation as an orator is obscured and overshadowed by his excellent book on Curran, which is a really valuable contribution to the history of the period. His other writings are of less account. Charles Anderson Read was a Sligo man, who deserves to be remembered if only as the originator of the "Cabinet of Irish Literature," a very serviceable work in its way. He died young, after writing some clever stories and poems which gave at least an indication of genius. Two other writers of Sligo remain to be mentioned—Archdeacon O'Rorke and Colonel Wood-Martin. Both have written the history of the county. Archdeacon O'Rorke's reputation, a very sound one, rests entirely on his valuable contribution to local history. Colonel Wood-Martin has written several other works of more general interest.

Art in Sligo does not exist, perhaps, but from that county have nevertheless come some excellent artists. Foremost is the well-known painter, Mr. J. B. Yeats, R.H.A., whose fine portraits are very justly admired by those who are good judges of art. Mr. Yeats is only now receiving the general recognition which has been his due for many years. His son, Jack B. Yeats, brother of the poet, has rather startled the artistic world by his original and very suggestive Irish drawings. The Countess Markievicz (*née* Gore-Booth)

should not be omitted from this notice of Sligo artists. Bernard Mulrenin, R.H.A., the miniature painter, was also from Sligo, and Martin Milmore and Joseph Milmore, the American sculptors, both hailed from that county. Their work is exclusively in America, and some of it, particularly that of Martin Milmore, has been highly praised by the American critics. The only notable architect from Sligo that I can discover is the late Sir John Benson, who carried out some rather important undertakings.

In science the one great name is that of the late Sir George Gabriel Stokes, some time President of the Royal Society. There were few greater scientists in the nineteenth century than Stokes, whose researches resulted in several most remarkable discoveries. He will always occupy a foremost place as a scientific pioneer. In the eighteenth century, Bryan Higgins was a most eminent chemist, and his relative William Higgins, who followed him, was almost equally distinguished in the same science. At the present day, Professor George Joseph Stokes, of Queen's College, Cork, is a man of some note, and General C. E. Webber, and his brother, Thomas Webber, both engineers of distinction, are worthy of record here. The late Edward J. Cooper, F.R.S., the astronomer, was not born in Sligo, but his family has been connected with it for generations, and he cannot be omitted. The late Dr. Charles Benson, the surgeon, was also a Sligo man. Other Sligo worthies of note now living are William Bourke Cockran, the famous American orator ; J. E. Gore, the astronomer ; Miss Florence Armstrong, a clever novelist ; William J. M. Starkie, the Commissssioner of Education, whose views on certain points have been so strongly commented upon in various quarters ; and William M. Crook, a well-known Liberal journalist and politician in London.

Alexander Perceval, M.P., a politician of past times who was high in the Councils of the Tory party of his day is now all but forgotten.

Military genius seems to have been rather rife in Sligo in olden days. The most notable instances of this are to be found in the Taaffe family. Sir William Taaffe (who died in 1627) was an eminent soldier, and the exploits of Theobald Taaffe, the 2nd Viscount and 1st Earl of Carlingford; of Francis Taaffe, the 4th Viscount and 3rd Earl, who was a Field Marshal in the Austrian service; and of Nicholas, the 6th Viscount, also a distinguished Austrian commander, would fill a goodly space. Their descendants have reached the highest posts in the Austrian Empire, and have mingled their blood with that of the most exclusive Royal family in Europe. Another Sligo family which has contributed largely to military annals, is that of the O'Haras. Sir Charles O'Hara, 1st Lord Tyrawley; James O'Hara, the second Lord Tyrawley; and General Charles O'Hara, his son were all daring soldiers, whose careers were exciting enough to satisfy the most sensation-loving reader. Cathal O'Connor, Cathal Oge O'Connor, Bryan McDonough, of the Irish Wars; Colonel Andrew McDonogh, of the French service; and General Owen Wynne, of the British Army, must also be mentioned. General Michael Corcoran, the American soldier of the Civil War, was a worthy compatriot of the men who have been named. Sir Donnell O'Connor, the statesman of Elizabethan times; Fergal or Farrell O'Gara, the patron of the Four Masters; several Gaelic poets of the O'Higgins family; Admiral William Gore-Jones; and Terence McDonogh, the great "Counsellor" of the 17th century; Francis MacDonagh, the late popular advocate; and the MacDermot, another eminent lawyer, complete a very creditable record.

## CHAPTER VI.—WICKLOW.



WICKLOW does not compare well with some other counties, but several great figures must be placed to its credit. The Parnell family did not strike very deep roots in the county, as I think that William Parnell, the author of the "History of the Penal Laws," was the first of the name to settle there. He was a very patriotic Irishman in his way, and though a country gentleman, attached to his estate, and taking a particular interest in its management (as many autograph letters of his, in my possession, show), found time to study Irish history as well as politics. His book keeps his name from oblivion. The greatest member of the family was Charles Stewart Parnell. We are too near that great Irishman's death to properly judge him. There can be no doubt that as time goes on, and the smaller figures of his time disappear or take their true proportions, his personality and work will assume their right prominence. We shall be better able to appraise his position in history in fifty years time than we are now. Still, one of the very greatest men of modern times was produced by Wicklow. His ancestors, Sir Henry Parnell and Sir John Parnell, prepared, as it were, the way for him. I do not think they owed any of their attributes to Wicklow, but they may be noted here. The first was one of the ablest economists of his time, and Sir John Parnell had in him all the qualities of a great statesman. Nor should Fanny Parnell be forgotten. If only for her beautiful poem, "Post-Mortem," one of the most powerful of Irish lyrics, she would deserve to be remembered. And her

political work had its valuable side. She was a force to be reckoned with in her lifetime, and her patriotism was as ardent as her brother's.

In speaking of Wicklow patriots, one naturally thinks of the famous chieftain, Feach MacHugh O'Byrne, the hero of many a fight and foray. The line was continued in Joseph Holt, a daring leader, in Michael Dwyer, no less distinguished for his exploits; and in William Michael Byrne—like the others, of '98 fame. Characteristically enough, Wicklow has given practically no soldiers of any account to the service of the British Empire. General Sir F. R. Maunsell and Colonel Bryan O'Toole are the only ones of note. It has certainly given a few able administrators and diplomatists, such as Sir Robert Adair, son of the famous "Robin" of that name; Sir Albert Hime, late Premier of Natal; and George Monck-Mason, a political agent in India. Charles Viscount Monck, an eminent Colonial Governor, was also of Wicklow family. Sir William Carroll, a famous seaman, demands a place here. Perhaps, too, Admiral Proby, third Earl of Carysfort, should be mentioned. James Eustace, the 3rd Viscount Baltinglass, must certainly not be overlooked. I cannot recall any other Wicklow men whose services were given, in any administrative or other capacity, to Great Britain in particular.

In literature and scholarship, of course, there is a more universal appeal. There are no very great writers from Wicklow, but some excellent scholars and antiquaries belong to the county. Of writers as such, the late E. L. Godkin, the famous New York publicist and journalist, was probably the most notable, but Wicklow also gave us Joseph Cooper Walker, who did good work in Irish and Italian antiquities and literature;

Isaac Ambrose Eccles, the Shakespearian commentator; and Henry Joseph Monck Mason, a learned man, with strong prejudices, whose more biased publications are forgotten, while his antiquarian researches have been found very useful. Dr. William Marsden was one of the greatest Orientalists of the eighteenth century, and his work, unlike that of the Vallanceys and other romancers, has stood the test of modern scholarship. Sir Richard Bulkeley was an eminent writer of the seventeenth century, and the first Earl of Carysfort, John J. Proby, was one of the most cultured of a not very cultured class. He was one of the best of the not very imposing or very lengthy list of Irish "noble" authors. Edward E. Bowen, the late accomplished Master of Harrow School, was a Wicklow-man, his "Songs of Harrow" being rather well-known. It is rather remarkable that two of the principal heraldic or genealogical writers should have been Wicklow-men. Francis Sandford and Matthew Lyon did valuable work in the matter of family history. One or two of the former's descendants became notable scholars, classical and theological.

The Wicklow poets, apart from Fanny Parnell, include the Rev. J. J. Murphy, a powerful ballad-writer; William Tighe, of the eighteenth century, and Mrs. F. M. Owen (*née* Synge), a clever essayist and poet. Few Catholic ecclesiastics of renown have come from Wicklow. St. Kevin was certainly born on the borders of that county and Wexford, but I am unable to say which county can lay most claim to the honour of his birth. In modern days, Daniel Murray, Archbishop of Dublin, is the most distinguished of the names connected with the Church. Nor do I find that any Protestant divine of repute can be accredited to Wicklow. Naturally there are one or two lawyers. Lord Chancellor Abraham Brewster is one of these, but the

most generally known is Chief Justice Whiteside, who is perhaps chiefly remembered as an orator. In the scientific world there are no names of great moment. Dr. Ralph Howard, father of Hugh Howard, the painter, Richard S. Brough, the electrician, and John Howard Kyan, the inventor of the Kyanising method of preserving wood, and an ingenious man generally, are the most interesting, and in the present day Dr. G. H. Falkiner Nuttall, the writer on hygiene, and Sir Annesley De Renzy, another medical man of note, exhaust the list.

In this connection, however, the famous æronaut, Richard Crosbie, may be mentioned. Of other notabilities, Mrs. C. F. Alexander, the hymn-writer; Joseph Atkinson, dramatist, poet and friend of Tom Moore; Thomas ("Buck") Whaley, the gambler, whose recently discovered "Memoirs" will be found of considerable value, and John Edwards, a now completely forgotten poet, must be included, though it is possible that Atkinson was not of Wicklow family. The same cannot be said of the Hon. Lewis Wingfield, artist and author, who was, however, I am inclined to think, born elsewhere. A writer who did not himself produce anything of interest, except the life of George Morland, his friend, was William Collins, but he deserves a prominent place here as the father of William Collins, R.A., the admirable painter, who was the father of the late William Wilkie Collins, the well-known novelist. William Hume Blake, the Canadian lawyer, was a notable Wicklow-man, and his son, the Hon. Edward Blake, M.P., occupies an honoured position in Canadian and Irish political history. Finally, it may be observed that Wicklow was the birth-place of a heretic, Adam Duff O'Toole, who was burned in Dublin in the fourteenth century. It will be seen that, on the whole, Wicklow comes out only moderately well.



## CHAPTER VII.—LEITRIM.



IT is difficult to say why Leitrim should be the lowest of all the counties in intellectual achievement, but such it is. George Nugent Reynolds, for whom has been claimed the authorship of "The Exile of Erin," is perhaps the best known of all Leitrim writers. That he wrote the poem referred to is more than doubtful. It is possible, but as the chief evidence for his authorship seems to be a lapse of memory on the part of Campbell, the reputed author, the ascription is not convincing. Reynolds certainly wrote the exquisite "Kathleen O'More," but the rest of his work is of very poor quality. In view of the very strong statements made on behalf of Reynolds by his friends and the difficulty of triumphantly proving Campbell's claim to the song, the matter is generally considered unsettled, but having looked into the subject with some thoroughness, I am entirely unconvinced as to the justice of the Reynolds claim. There were one or two other Leitrim poets—the late Rev. James Keegan being one of them. He is best remembered, however, for his labours on behalf of the Irish language, for which he was a keen enthusiast. He wrote a number of poems, but they are of comparatively little value. James Hogg, the Canadian poet, was also a Leitrim man, and there are other writers of the present day to whom Leitrim has an equally undoubted claim. One of these is the very clever French Canadian poet, Dr. William H. Drummond, who is a native of the county, and

Alfred Denis Godley, who is of Leitrim parentage, and may have been born there. His two or three volumes of verse are both witty and poetical. His father was an able writer on public questions, and his brother, Sir J. A. Godley, is one of the most important of Government officials, being Under-Secretary for India. Other Leitrim men of note include the notorious Dr. Patrick Duigenan, the polemical writer; Charles R. Dod, the author and originator of the well-known compilations known as Dod's "Peerage," etc., and a prominent journalist in London for many years; John William Carleton, the legal writer; Dr. P. A. Simpson, an eminent physician; Walter Jones, a satirist, to whom has been attributed the scurrilous "*Hespero-Nesographia*," or descriptions of Ireland; the Rev. James Whitelaw, one of the authors of the valuable "*History of Dublin*," and of other useful works; Jerome Duigenan, the harper; and to these may be added Miss Blanche Loftus Tottenham, a novelist of some popularity in her day, and, perhaps, Myles Gerald Keon, who was the author of some once widely-read books, and, I think, a native of Leitrim. One eminent soldier, the late Colonel A. W. Durnford, and one notable lawyer, John Gore, afterwards Lord Annaly, were also from Leitrim. James Booth, the mathematician, and Morgan Crofton, F.R.S. (who is, I fancy, of the Leitrim Croftons) complete the record. But that great Irish figure, Sir Brian O'Rourke ("of the Battle-axes"), was also in all likelihood a Leitrim worthy, and he, whom Sir Nicholas Malby described as "the proudest man on this earth," will be probably regarded, generally, as its most famous personage.

## CHAPTER VIII.—DONEGAL.



THE work of the late W. J. Doherty called "Inishowen and Tyrconnell" is the only one known to me in which a fairly thorough attempt is made to chronicle the famous men of Donegal. Doherty's record is, of course, incomplete, but it is a very creditable attempt. Donegal has produced more remarkable men than any part of the North-west of Ireland. The most important of these are familiar to all Irishmen. St. Columba comes first, the greatest Irish ecclesiastic in our history. His biographer, Adamnan, was also a Donegal man, and, needless to say, three of the Four Masters—Michael O'Clery, Lughaidh O'Clery, and Cucogry O'Clery—hailed from the same county. The list of Donegal writers is considerable, and it will be noticed that most of the names are those of really eminent characters, a greater proportion, perhaps, than is to be found elsewhere. The Rev. John Colgan, greatest of Irish hagiologists, came from this most favoured county, which has been prolific also in Gaelic scholars and writers. Hugh MacWard, and many other writers of that family; Cormac MacDonlevy and Neil O'Glacan, the physicians, also of note in Gaelic annals, reflect lustre on Donegal. Beside Colgan's name should be mentioned that of the Rev. Hugh Ward, one of the famous scholars who spread the fame of Irish learning on the Continent. In more modern times may be noted Bishop James O'Gallagher, whose Irish sermons for a very long period were almost the only printed literature accessible

to the average reader of Irish. At the present day P. T. MacGinley and Patrick O'Byrne have written some most popular Irish prose and verse.

The names of the chief historical personages connected with the county are those of the O'Donnells. Hugh Roe O'Donnell is second only in national esteem to Owen Roe O'Neill, who, with his famous family, belongs to another part of the North. There is no means of describing in a brief reference, such as this must be, the exploits of Hugh Roe O'Donnell, of Hugh Baldearg O'Donnell, of Calvach O'Donnell, of Sir Niall Garbh O'Donnell, of Manus O'Donnell, and of Rory O'Donnell, first Earl of Tyrconnell. It is impossible to do more here than give their names. In that marvellous 16th-17th century, which was so glorious and so melancholy for Ireland, they have a high and romantic place. Sir Cahir O'Doherty, too, belongs to the same gallant period and district. General Daniel O'Donnell, a kinsman of the great soldier of the previous century, fought valiantly in the French service, and was a worthy upholder of the warlike renown of his race. Some later Donegal soldiers transferred their allegiance to England. General Sir Andrew Barnard, General George Vaughan Hart, General Henry Hamilton Maxwell, and John Pitt Kennedy may be cited as examples. Their careers were distinguished enough, but there is less glamour about them. More interest attaches to the deeds of General Andrew Lewis, of American fame. And here it may be pointed out that two of the greatest Presidents of the United States were of Donegal parentage—Andrew Jackson and James Buchanan. It is even believed by some that Jackson was actually born in the county. The fact of their Donegal origin is, however, beyond dispute. Not many English administrators have

come from Donegal. The eminent Indian statesman, Sir Richard Montgomery ; Sir William Edward Maxwell ; and the late Sir Andrew Clarke, are the most notable. The latter was born elsewhere, but his people were from Donegal. Sir Peter Benson Maxwell, the Colonial Judge, (and father of Sir W. E. Maxwell), and John Murtagh McCrossan, the Australian politician, may also be mentioned.

The most eminent Catholic ecclesiastic from Donegal in later days is Cardinal Logue, and with him may be mentioned the late Archbishop McGettigan and Bishop O'Donnell. Whether it is that the lives of Catholic divines are neglected—there is certainly room for an Irish Catholic biographical dictionary on the lines of Gillow's "English Catholics"—but every part of the county seems to produce Protestant divines of some reputation. From Donegal came the Rev. Francis Makemie, the Rev. Samuel Ralston, the Rev. Francis Alison, and the Rev. Dr. Charles Elliott, the American Wesleyan. These were eloquent and scholarly men, and to them may be added the Rev. James Bryson and the Rev. William Bryson, clergymen who find a place in the records of Presbyterian history. One Presbyterian divine deserves more than passing notice. James Porter was, like many others of his creed and time, a patriotic Irishman, and one who suffered for his national opinions. His "Billy Bluff and Squire Firebrand" was one of the most popular chap-books of the North, and it does infinite credit to his feelings. It is full of humour of a grim kind, and had he lived its author might have continued the work of Swift in a more Irish way. His name will be ever remembered with honour in Ireland. Two sons of his obtained in later times high and deserved recognition in America, to which they had emigrated, and Louisiana holds

them amongst her most notable citizens. Another Donegal clergyman of note was the Rev. John Boyce ("Paul Peppergrass"), the Catholic author of "Shandy Maguire," "The Spæwife," and other books; and the eminent Protestant traveller, Rev. Josias L. Porter, a scholar of some repute, cannot be omitted. William Elder, a Presbyterian, who subsequently became a distinguished journalist, must also be named.

Isaac Butt was a Donegal man, and he ranks amongst the best of its sons. His services to Ireland have never been adequately told, and it is nearly time that a biography of this truly great Irishman were written. It would, if well done, prove a valuable addition to Irish biographical and historical literature. As advocate and orator he is well known, but it is not so widely recognised that he was a distinguished political economist, and an able writer on Irish questions. He is the only Irish politician of any real importance from Donegal.

To literature Donegal has given some interesting recruits. The best poet of the county, and perhaps its greatest literary man of modern times, William Allingham, the author of "The Winding Banks of Erne," would be a glory for any county, and Donegal may well feel proud of him. With all his success in London he never forget his old birth-place, and his poems give abundant evidence of his love of Ireland and her people. Personally, Allingham was as Irish as his poems. He had the finest Irish qualities, and these endeared him to all who knew him. His place in Irish poetry is not very far from the top. Another Donegal man who may be mentioned here is Dr. John Kells Ingram, author of "Who Fears to Speak of '98," and other poems. That poem alone will keep his fame from decaying, but it should not be forgotten that Dr. Ingram is also one

of the foremost economists of our time. His brother, Dr. Thomas Dunbar Ingram, was a clever writer, but his books on Irish history are absurdly biassed and altogether too unconvincing. One of the most eminent critics of the present age is Stopford A. Brooke, who is also a native of County Donegal. His work in literature is both extensive and valuable, and as a poet he also takes high rank. His critical studies of English writers are well known, and he has written finely on Irish themes, for, unlike some other notable Irish litterateurs in England, he has always been intensely interested in his native country. Stephen Gwynn was also born in the county, and as novelist, critic, and poet he has done much to popularise the Irish revival outside Ireland. Other Donegal poets are Miss Frances Brown, the blind poetess; Robert A. Wilson ("Barney Maglone"), a very popular journalist of thirty or forty years ago, and a writer of racy Northern Irish verse; and Patrick Sarsfield Cassidy, whose work has been chiefly done in America. The Rev. John Reade, the well-known Canadian poet, completes the list of poets.

Seumas MacManus and Mrs. E. Rentoul Esler are two novelists of more than local fame. Indeed, the former's humorous stories are, perhaps, better known abroad than at home. Nobody knows the Donegal peasant as well as MacManus, and few have written of Irish rural life with more sympathy. Mrs. Esler is a novelist who appeals rather to the English than the Irish public, but she is a new writer, and we may hope to see her turning more to her own country for inspiration. The late Baroness Tautphoeus (nee Montgomery) was at one time a popular novelist. Frank Hugh O'Donnell, politician and free-lance, belongs to the same county. Thomas Ainge De Vyr (or Dever), a sometime notable Socialist journalist

(whose daughter, Mary Ainge De Vere, is known as a clever American poetess); Walter Henry, army surgeon and author, and Colonel S. Haslett Browne, another army surgeon of note, also call for notice here. I have left one renowned Donegal man to the last. His writings are not now read by anybody, yet he was a great figure in his time, and undoubtedly a man of vigorous intellect and great personality. I refer to John Toland, whose scholarship, if turned to better account, might have perpetuated his name in a much more agreeable way than at present. His intellectual attainments were wasted in vain theories, and little of the work he left behind him is likely to survive. This chapter cannot be closed without a final reference to the late W. J. Doherty, author of "Inisowen and Tyrconnell," who well deserves to stand among the Donegal men who have rendered useful service to Ireland, and the Rev. William Chichester (afterwards Lord O'Neill) a clever composer.



## CHAPTER IX.—DERRY.



DERRY has been, after Down, Antrim and Tyrone, the most prolific in ability of any of the Northern districts. It has been, indeed, quite phenomenally fruitful in some directions. Some of the greatest statesmen and administrators ever known in the history of the British Empire have been of Derry origin. They have not always been born there, but have sprung from the county nevertheless. Let us take a few examples. It is admitted that the Lawrences were amongst the foremost of Indian administrators. The three most famous members of the family, sons of a soldier of some note, were Sir Henry Montgomery Lawrence, Sir John Mair (afterwards Lord) Lawrence, and Sir George St. Patrick Lawrence. The first-named, a soldier of renown, was one of the most striking figures of his epoch. He was one of the great dominant types, who only rarely occur in history. His brother, Lord Lawrence, ranks with the greatest Governors of India, and Sir George Lawrence was a brilliant soldier, the last of a trio of wonderful men. Another family, sprung from Derry, was that of the Cannings. George Canning, a poet and scholar of some merit, died at an early age; his son, George Canning, though born in London, always proclaimed himself Irish. He also died prematurely, after becoming Prime Minister of England. It would be difficult to find a parallel in his own time, or subsequently, for so versatile and vigorous an intellect as that of Canning.

His relative, the first Earl Canning, was another of the eminent Viceroy's of India, who have come from an Irish stock, while another relative, Stratford Canning, the first Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe, was an accomplished diplomatist, whose successful career, indeed, has been the theme of several volumes. The Hon. Albert Canning, a capable author of our own day, is also allied to this family. In diplomacy, the name of the present Sir Charles Stewart Scott should be mentioned, and among notable Derry soldiers are Sir William Thornton, Sir Henry Torrens, Sir Arthur Wellesley Torrens, and the present General E. P. Leach, V.C. Captain Sir Robert Hagan is the only seaman I can find connected with Derry. The late Sir Thomas George Knox, of Siam, and the present John Carey Hall, of Japan, may be added as instances of Derrymen who have reached the highest positions in the Consular service. Sir William MacMillan was also a distinguished Colonial official, and Sir George Ferguson Bowen had a most notable career as a Colonial Governor. Captain John M'Neill Boyd, who so heroically lost his life at Kingstown, deserves a niche somewhere in this record.

Derry has not been so productive of eminent lawyers as some other counties of the North and South. Baron Martin, of the English Bench, was accounted one of the best lawyers of his time, and the present Master of the Rolls in Ireland, the Right Hon. Andrew M. Porter, is admittedly one of the best of judges. His uncle, the late William Porter, was Attorney-General at the Cape, and might have claimed with confidence any position in the Colony. He was an excellent and popular administrator. The famous Baron Dawson is immortalised by his "Bumpers, Squire Jones," finest of Bacchanalian lyrics.

Of Protestant divines from Derry there have, of course,

been many. Some of these have been eminent scholars, such, for example, as the late Rev. Dr. Samuel Davidson, whose Biblical studies are greatly esteemed. But Dr. Adam Clarke was, doubtless, the most important of Derry divines. His works were considered among the most erudite written up to his time. The Rev. John Abernethy is, perhaps, best remembered as the father of the great physician of the same name. The Rev. Thomas Witherow was a capable historian, and wrote some excellent works on the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, which are almost the chief authorities on their subject. Another Derry man who wrote authoritatively on the same matter was Classon Porter, uncle of the present Master of the Rolls. The latter's father, the Rev. John Scott Porter, wrote several interesting books of travel. These books were very popular, and their author was one of the leading figures in the religious world of fifty years ago. The Rev. Henry Cooke, whose statue stands in Belfast; the Rev. William Boyd, and the Rev. Archibald Boyd, were also notable in several ways. John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam in the seventeenth century, and the present Archbishop Alexander, the Protestant Primate, are the two most distinguished divines given to the English Church in Ireland by Derry. Dr. Alexander is not only an eloquent preacher, but also a poet of considerable power. Some of his writings are likely to live as literature. A very eminent Protestant theological writer was Alexander Knox, a man of considerable intellect, whose works have been carefully collected and edited, and in this connection may be mentioned the name of Dominick M'Causland, a popular religious writer of a decade or two ago. The Rev. James Bentley Gordon wrote the best account of the '98 Rebellion. It is singularly fair and impartial, and coming from a Protestant clergyman, who

lived through it all, it has considerable value. The Rev. Daniel De Vinne was a noted Methodist. The late Rev. Charles Dent Bell was a poet of no mean attainment. Some of his pieces are deservedly and widely known, and a careful selection from his several volumes would be welcome. The chief religious poet of Derry is, however, the Rev. John Samuel Bewley Monsell, whose work is to be found in many anthologies, Irish and English. His hymns are occasionally beautiful.

Science has received some valuable contributions from the county. Dr. William Babington, F.R.S., the mineralogist; Dr. Benjamin Babington, F.R.S., his son, who in 1829 invented the laryngoscope; James Bryce, the geologist; Professor John Perry, F.R.S., the mathematician; the Rev. William Hamilton, the naturalist (murdered in 1797); Sir James Murray, the inventor of fluid magnesia; Dr. Joseph Clarke, Dr. Robert Hamilton, Dr. St. Clair Thomson, and Professor Alexander Anderson, the mathematician, are names of repute in their several special studies. It must be admitted that, in science, Derry is not to be compared with Antrim—for example. But there are compensations. In Robert Torrens, F.R.S., the county produced a very notable economist, and in general literature and scholarship there are some well-known names. George Farquhar is, from the English point of view, the greatest literary possession of Derry. His plays are not often acted now-a-days, but they are first-rate literature. They may be said to have held the stage for over two hundred years, and “*The Beaux’ Stratagem*,” “*The Recruiting Officer*,” etc., must be reckoned with by the student of the drama. But for his early death Farquhar might well have rendered finer service to literature. More important to Irishmen is the name of John Mitchel, unquestionably the finest writer

Derry has produced. Apart from his political career, what county would not be proud to have given to literature the author of "The Jail Journal," "The Last Conquest of Ireland (Perhaps)," and the "Apology for the British Government in Ireland"? Such graphic prose, such sledge-hammer polemics, such cogent reasoning, such mordant irony, place him along with Swift as a political writer. And that he could write charmingly on literature many of his uncollected essays prove. Edward Walsh, the poet, though born in the county, and therefore justly claimed by it in some part, was of Southern extraction, and his poems, often beautiful, but sometimes very poor, are Irish of the Irish, and, perhaps one might say, Southern in every respect. His stories and sketches are not so well known, never having been collected, but they are well worthy of preservation. Another Derry poet, Andrew Orr, is known as the author of a very popular song, written in Australia, and with the refrain of

"The green land, the old land,  
Far dearer than the gold land,  
With all its Southern glory and its changing summer skies."


But he wrote much worthier work. Some of his love poems are beautiful, and his work generally deserves to be better known. But nearly all of it is buried in Australian papers, and it will be difficult to collect. Miss Mary Balfour, a writer of graceful Irish lyrics at the opening of the eighteenth century, should not be passed over. Nor William M'Comb, a poet well known in the North, and not altogether unknown elsewhere in Ireland. Nor George Martin, the Canadian poet; nor Hugh Harkin, now chiefly known by one popular song. Other Derry writers demanding notice are William Phillips, the dramatist; George E. Howard, a bad poet, but a publicist of some

ability ; Henry W. Torrens, a very good Arabic scholar, whose unfinished translation of "The Arabian Nights" promised so well, and a clever and witty writer of fugitive pieces ; William G. Aston, author of some excellent works on Japan, including the standard English history of Japanese literature ; Dr. James Johnson, a traveller and writer on Ireland, as well as a skilful physician ; and the late Charles Williams, the military writer and war correspondent. I know of only one eminent Derry actor—namely, John E. McCullough—whose fame is chiefly confined to America, and the favourite actress, Matilda Heron. David Cairnes and George Phillips, Governors of Derry, are prominent figures in the history of the city ; and it is an interesting fact that St. Canice was a native of what is now the County of Derry. William Sampson, the United Irishman, is the only Derryman of any great reputation connected with the Rebellion, so far as I can discover. But he was an excellent type, and his little volume of "Memoirs" is very interesting and valuable. I have, doubtless, overlooked good business men, and some zealous officials, but I must not forget two seamen of renown, who, I think, may be credited to Derry. These are Admiral Sir Thomas Graves and Admiral Samuel Graves. They served England very well in the eighteenth century. The late Captain Sir Robert Hagan was certainly a Derryman. Samuel M'Curdy Greer was a rather prominent politician and Tenant-Righter in the middle of the nineteenth century, and his name, I think, closes the list of men of action, if a politician can be classified under that designation.

It only remains for me to give credit to Derry for some admirable artists. The earliest of these were Edward Sheil, a clever painter in his day, and James Heffernan, the

sculptor, whose Derry birth may be regarded as an accident ; and Philip H. Miller, A.R.H.A. John O'Connor, an artist, who did some of the best scene-painting of modern times, and who was also an historical painter of great merit, died only a few years ago, and there are two other Derry artists, one of whom is first in his own line as a black and white illustrator (I mean Hugh Thomson), and the other, A. D. M'Cormick, a prolific illustrator.

## CHAPTER X.—TYRONE.

F only as the home of the O'Neills Tyrone stands high in Irish achievement. Some of the more famous members of the family were, perhaps, not born in it; but they should, in justice, be credited to it. Shane O'Neill, "the proud," was the most potent of them all, and the extraordinarily vehement denunciation of him by Froude is excellent proof that he was a truly formidable foe of England. It is a pity that his life has not been fully and capably written from the Irish point of view. It would be far more valuable than the history of any of the other O'Neills, not excepting the peerless Owen Roe, whose career has been well sketched by the late J. F. Taylor. Owen Roe O'Neill; Hugh O'Neill, who defeated the Cromwellians so brilliantly at Clonmel; the great Hugh O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone, familiar to us through John Mitchel's vivid pages; Con "Bacach" O'Neill, Sir Turlough O'Neill, Sir Phelim O'Neill, and Henry O'Neill—here is a glorious galaxy of warriors and chiefs. Even though all their deeds cannot be praised, their importance in history accounts for, and more or less excuses, most of their shortcomings. Shane O'Neill, particularly, has been described in the blackest of colours, and though he was not a very model of all the virtues, the contemporary English assailants of his character were hardly the people to condemn him. No doubt, Henry the Eighth, like his champion, Froude, would have found serious fault with Shane O'Neill's view of morality. Other soldiers of note from Tyrone generally gave their services



to the British Empire. Such were Guy Carleton (Lord Dorchester), a great General ; General Sir Ephraim Stan-  
nus, General R. H. Stotherd, General James Knox Spence,  
and General Sir John Hamilton. The late General R. W.  
Lowry also had a distinguished career, and General Sir A.  
Montgomery-Moore, who is in active service, is also well  
known. Some of the Tyrone men have done splendid  
service abroad. One, General Juan MacKenna, fought for  
and helped to win the liberation of Chili ; in America,  
General James Shields was one of the heroes of the Civil  
War, in which also General Robert Patterson distinguished  
himself ; while two noted Swedish military heroes, Baron  
Hugh Hamilton and Malcolm Hamilton, who distinguished  
themselves in the latter part of the seventeenth century,  
were also from Tyrone. In the American Revolutionary  
War General James Potter bore an honoured part. The  
only sailor of any note is the late Admiral J. P. Maclear.  
As administrators, Tyrone men have also shone. In this  
term I include eminent officials of all kinds, who are called  
upon to control the affairs of colonies or to rule over large  
dependencies. Sir David Barbour, the eminent financial  
authority in India ; the Hon. Thomas Young Duncan, the  
New Zealand Minister ; Colonel Sir Buchanan Scott, the  
Calcutta Master of the Mint ; the Hon. H. M. Thompson,  
an important Bombay official ; the Right Hon. the Earl of  
Ranfurly, an eminent Colonial Governor, are the more  
notable instances.

In Science, too, Tyrone has not been idle. Professor  
James M'Cullagh was one of the first mathematicians of his  
day ; and Sir Thomas Maclear, F.R.S., was an astronomer  
of high standing. Professor John James Charles, a con-  
temporary physiologist ; George Buchanan, the Indian and  
South African engineer ; and Richard Vicars Boyle,

eminent engineer in Japan, who is at least of Tyrone parentage, may also be named. Nor must the clever lady astronomer, Mrs. Edward Walter Maunder, be omitted. Professor James Alexander Lindsay, a medical and hygienic expert of the present day ; Dr. Thomas Reid, a naval surgeon and writer of the early nineteenth century ; John Robinson Dickson, the Canadian Professor of medicine ; Sir George Magrath, F.R.S., a brilliant physician ; Dr. Daniel Toler Maunsell, a well-known medical writer ; and Dr. William Stevenson, an eighteenth century physician and author of some reputation, must also be added. Whether the pharmacist, Alfred Adams, who during the Siege of Ladysmith invented the concoction known as "Chevril," deserves immortality, I do not know, but he was another of the ubiquitous Tyrone men.

Lawyers of high position are not numerous, but still among them are the late Baron Dowse, a witty lawyer, if not a great one ; the present Lord Justice Holmes ; Sir Joseph Frizelle, the Indian judge ; Professor Henry Goudy, who holds the Chair of Civil Law at Oxford ; and Professor Robert Donnell, a barrister of ability who took a prominent part in the land reform movement of thirty years ago. Divines of varying degrees of merit have been and are plentiful. The most notable Catholic ecclesiastics are the great American Archbishop, Most Rev. John Hughes, and the late Most Rev. Joseph Dixon, Archbishop of Armagh. The late Monsignor Nugent, the distinguished Liverpool philanthropist, to whom a statue is to be erected in that city, an honour inaugurated in his lifetime, was of Tyrone parentage, and among other Catholic ecclesiastics from Tyrone are the famous Bishop Edward Maginn, of Derry, whose life was written by Thomas D'Arcy M'Gee ; the Most Rev. J. P. Gallagher, Bishop of Goulburn, New South

Wales ; Francis Kelly, Bishop of Derry ; the late Dean O'Kane, of Maynooth, and the Rev. James M'Caffrey, Professor of Ecclesiastical History at the same College. St. Eoghan, St. Mura, and St. Colman, nephew of St. Columba, must also be credited to the county which for a good while supplied the See of Derry with its prelates.

Of Protestant divines there have been a large number. The Rev. John Abernethy, grandfather of the famous physician of that name ; the Rev. Adam Averill, a prominent Irish Methodist ; the Right Rev. George Kelly Dunlop, Bishop of New Mexico and Arizona ; the late Rev. Dr. R. R. Kane, a famous Orange leader, who, for all his " No Popery " fads, was a good Irishman at heart ; the Rev. James Morgan, D.D., a popular divine ; the Rev. Dr. William Fleming Stevenson, author of well-known hymns, and a prominent figure in his day ; the Rev. J. J. Given, a Hebrew scholar of distinction ; the Rev. John Lawson, D.D., whose " Lectures on Oratory " was a popular work in the eighteenth century ; the Rev. Robert Knox and the Rev. Stuart Robinson, Presbyterian divines, the latter of American fame ; the Very Rev. Canon James Fleming and Canon W. J. Knox-Little, two eminent London divines of the present day ; the Rev. Alexander Carson, the Rev. Dr. Robert Knox, the Rev. Samuel Haliday (the father of Dr. A. H. Haliday, mentioned in the chapter dealing with Antrim)—these are the leading names, not forgetting Bishop Joseph Barclay, and the late Archbishop of Armagh, the Right Rev. Robert B. Knox, who belonged to the Ranfurly family, and was probably born in Tyrone. Other divines are known rather as scholars, such as the Rev. R. H. Charles, Professor of Biblical Greek in Trinity College, Dublin ; the late Rev. Canon Tait ; the Rev

James Kennedy-Baillie, a good classical scholar of former days; the Rev. Abraham Dawson, and the Rev. W. T. Latimer, are living antiquaries who have done work of historical value. The Rev. George Walker, defender of Derry, deserves a place to himself. His is, of course, one of Tyrone's big names. Here, too, should be noticed the Rev. John Mackenzie, author, like Walker, of a valuable account of the Siege of the Maiden City.

Journalists are generally authors, but there are some Tyrone names which may be given here which do not represent books. The late L. L. Ferdinand, editor of the *Galway Vindicator*, and Robert J. M'Hugh, the war correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, are cases in point. John Dunlap, the printer of the "American Declaration of Independence," is of high importance in the history of American journalism; and John M'Creery, author of a finely-produced poem on "The Press," was one of the best English printers of his time. Thomas Neilson Underwood, the Irish national journalist, also deserves mention. Of actual men and women of letters, Tyrone has been somewhat generous. William Carleton, greatest of all Irish novelists, is sufficient glory in himself. With all his shortcomings, no other Irish writer has ever displayed such intimate knowledge of the Irish peasantry. His knowledge of the people was so accurate that where the pictures are not true they must be perversely untrue. Dr. George Sigerson, poet, scientist, scholar, and publicist, might be fairly included in half a dozen categories. He is one of the best of Irish poets; he is a noted botanist; his "Land Tenures of Ireland" is a most valuable contribution to its subject, and his various scholarly and historical essays are always full of learning, and admirably written. I need not enlarge here upon Dr. Sigerson's innumerable services to

all movements which are likely to help Ireland. I hope he will render one service to the country by collecting and publishing in book form his best poems and his best essays. William Collins, the poet, author of "Tyrone Among the Bushes," and other popular lyrics; Miss Alice L. Milligan, the well-known poetess; the Rev. George O'Neill, S.J., who has written some excellent poems; Charles J. Quin, a most promising young poet; the lamented Rose Kavanagh; James Gilland, one of the best of the United Irishmen poets; the late Mrs. Margaret F. Sullivan, a brilliant American journalist and poetess; the Rev. John Graham, a religious poet of merit; and Robert Hely Thompson, better known as "Robert Blake," are the more important of Tyrone poets. But the father of James Macfarlan, the Scotch poet, was a Tyrone man, as was also the father of the Rev. John Ball, who flourished and was esteemed as a poet at the end of the eighteenth century.

Besides the poets, there were Robert Montgomery Martin, an able statistical and historical writer; the Rev. Dr. Thomas Campbell, the genial and patriotic author of "A Philosophical Survey of the South of Ireland," and other works; Andrew Hamilton, the loyalist recorder of the "Deeds of the Inniskillen Men"; William Montgomery, the historical writer of the same period; John Murphy, the late American Catholic publisher; Professor W. R. Scott, of St. Andrews, author of a clever book on Francis Hutcheson, the Irish philosopher; Colonel Lewis Mansergh Buchanan, traveller and author of the present time; John Gamble, who wrote some Irish stories, but is best known by his "View of Manners and Society in the North of Ireland," written in the early part of the last century; and Francis Kirkpatrick, an Orange writer of about the same period. Robert Steele, a very capable scholar of the present

day, must also find a place here, his parents being from Cookstown. It is possible, too, that the Rev. Henry Boyd, translator of Dante, and a voluminous poet, was from Tyrone. James Douglas, the present well-known critic, though born in Belfast, is of Tyrone parentage. J. R. Clegg, a promising writer of the day, is also from Tyrone; likewise William H. Maxwell, the eminent New York educationalist. Dr. Robert M'Cormick, the Arctic navigator and writer, was, I feel certain, from the same county, which also produced Captain R. S. Lowry, R.N.; and Dr. William Forest M'Clinton, a late distinguished physician and Inspector-General of Naval Hospitals. Not a few of the merchant princes of America and Canada came from Tyrone, but, generally speaking, they do not come within the scope of this work. I will conclude by mentioning that Arthur O'Neill, the famous harper; William J. Corder, the Australian organist; Robert Ponsonby Staples, the painter, and Oliver Sheppard, R.H.A., the rising sculptor (the only Tyrone artists I can discover); William Shaw, M.P., a notable politician, who preceded Mr. Parnell in the leadership of the Irish Party; J. C. M'Coan, M.P., a once well-known politician and author of works on Far Eastern problems; Hugh Taylor, the American actor; and William Graham Browne, the English actor, also belong to Tyrone; and that Ignatius Donnelly, the Baconian champion, and his sister, Eleanor C. Donnelly, an excellent American poetess, are sprung from a Tyrone family.

## CHAPTER XI.—KILKENNY.



NOTHING is more remarkable than the high intellectual level of Kilkenny, when one considers the present apathetic condition and general backwardness of that county in many respects. Certainly, if intellect had been the deciding factor, or rather, if the brilliant natives of that county had cared to accomplish it, that otherwise favoured county might be one of the most progressive localities in Ireland. It is interesting to glance at the list of famous Kilkenny men—some of them of the highest merit—and then to note that for all its achievement in the past, it is almost silent now. From a literary point of view it has done pretty well, John Banim and Michael Banim, the novelists, at their best, hold their own with almost any other Irish writers of fiction. But, except the very clever Miss Mary Costello, who writes so well of Dublin life, I do not remember any other Kilkenny story-teller of particular merit. In poetry the names are more numerous. John Locke, author of "Dawn on the Irish Coast," and other excellent verse; William Gorman Wills, the dramatist; Kevin T. Buggy, who wrote "The Saxon Shilling"; Dr. John T. Campion, a popular "Nation" poet; Thomas Bibby, author of two clever historical plays in verse; Michael Desmond Ryan, the song-writer, and his son, Desmond L. Ryan, musical critic and song-writer. These are, perhaps, the chief names, and they are not very important. Sir Francis Hastings Doyle, the English poet, was also of Kilkenny origin.

But of scholars and philosophers Kilkenny has not been sparing. George Berkeley, Bishop of Cloyne, comes first his philosophical writings and his sympathetic "Querist" entitling him to a very exalted place in literature. Doctor John O'Donovan, the great Irish scholar, and the Rev. James Graves and John G. A. Prins, noted antiquaries, also came from Kilkenny, as did also the Rev. Matthew Kelly, a learned Catholic divine who did most excellent work in Irish history by his editions of Dr. Lynch's "Cambrensis Eversus," Philip O'Sullivan-Beare's "History of Ireland," and so on. Perhaps, too, Edmund O'Donovan, the traveller and war correspondent, may be fairly claimed for the county, seeing his parentage. The Rev. Peter Walsh, D.D., one of the greatest scholars of the seventeenth century, also adds to its literary fame. Kilkenny School, a famous institution in its day, taught Swift and Congreve, and possibly the existence of that notable school may have influenced, for its intellectual good, the City of Marble, if not the whole county. David Rothe, the Bishop, an eminent scholar; the Rev. Bernard Rothe, or Routh, equally distinguished, and Robert Rothe, a local antiquary, whose "Register or Breviat" of the city is very valuable, were three first-rate men of learning. Constantia Grierson was a remarkable classical scholar for a woman, and the Rev. Martin Sherlock's "Letters" and other writings were warmly admired in their day, and have been often praised since. The Rev. Theobald Stapleton was a distinguished Irish writer of the seventeenth century. In later days, there have been Dr. Robert Kane, author of a book on "The Williamite Wars"; while Dr. Richard Helsham, a natural philosopher of distinction; Sebastian Shortall, Cistercian and poet; the Rev. Richard Archdekin, and the Rev. James Archer, the Jesuits, and some other



early scholars and divines have reflected considerable lustre on Ireland. Science can show Thomas Grubb, F.R.S., the famous optician, whose son, Sir Howard Grubb, F.R.S., is named in connection with Dublin; Dr. Abraham Colles, a great surgeon; J. F. E. Barnes, a notable living engineer, and Dr. Thomas J. Hutchinson, a distinguished medical writer. In the drama, the name of W. G. Wills, already referred to, is of some account, and his brother, Freeman C. Wills, author of "The Only Way," also deserves mention. Only four notable actors can be named—Kitty Clive, whose father was from Kilkenny, Jack Johnstone, the best Irish comedian and singer of his time; Denis Leonard and Mary Duff (*nee* Dyke) the American actress.

There are a few notable lawyers, including Sir William Shee (the first English Catholic judge since the Reformation), and Sir Nicholas White, John Scott, the notorious Earl of Clonmel, who was probably a Kilkenny man, and the Hon. Edward Butler, a prominent lawyer in Australia. These do not make as good a show as many counties of Ireland could produce, but Kilkenny has a very impressive list of soldiers to her credit. The Butlers help to swell the total. Some of them were also great administrators. I think I am safe in claiming for the county the great Duke of Ormonde, James Butler. No man in the seventeenth century, with the exception of Cromwell, filled so large a place in the history of the Three Kingdoms. He has found a host of defenders from the many assailants who attacked him during his life, and quite a small library of books and pamphlets are concerned with his career. Irish people have no great cause to love him, but he remains one of the greatest Irishmen that ever lived. James Butler, the second Duke, was also a capable soldier. Though born in Dublin, he finds his most natural place here. The

fifth and sixth Earls of Ormonde must also be mentioned, as well as Thomas Butler, the tenth Earl, called "The Black." There were many other Butlers known to fame, but I need only notice Thomas, Earl of Ossory, and Count Walter Butler, who killed Wallenstein. This Butler was a notable warrior, who was very probably from Kilkenny, though Tipperary has been given as his place of origin.

An eminent British soldier of a later time was General Sir Denis Pack, who has been claimed for Kilkenny, though Waterford may have a better claim to him. General Sir John Doyle and three other members of his family—namely, Sir Charles William Doyle, Sir Charles Doyle, and Sir J. M. Doyle—were all distinguished military men. Their careers are set forth at length by various authorities, and all that need be said here is that they won their positions by creditable service in the English army. Richard Grace and Robert Parker were also very eminent as soldiers a century or so earlier. General Michael Rothe saw distinguished service in the French army. General Joseph Briscoe was a noted American soldier and engineer, and the late General Samuel Madden should also be named. Admiral Sir John Gore is the only Kilkenny seaman of repute. At the present day I can discover no very notable Kilkenny man, whether in the army or the Civil Service, unless it be William J. Kenny, Consul-General of the Philippine Islands, a Catholic official of ability.

In the old days Kilkenny was more lavish. Henry Flood, the statesman, who has not quite received his due meed from Irish historians, was in some respects the greatest man in the Irish Parliament. Grattan's dislike of him, and his well-known phillipic against him, have undoubtedly, done much to obscure Flood's splendid

qualities ; but, to the impartial observer, he seems to have been unjustly treated. His noble bequest for the Irish language to Trinity College, Dublin, is a proof of his thorough patriotism, and, indeed, in all his actions he was decidedly a disinterested Irish patriot. His bequest of £50,000 for Irish language purposes was, of course, set aside by anti-Irish influences, and the money was completely lost to Ireland. Walter Hussey Burgh was another patriot of Flood's time, whose name is well remembered by the Irish people. As orator and statesman, he was in the front rank, and his famous declaration that England " had sown her laws as dragon's teeth and they had sprung up as armed men," is often quoted. Sir Hercules Langrishe, another noted politician of the period, is known now-a-days rather for his wit than for his statesmanship ; he was an accomplished man, and cut a considerable figure in the Irish Parliament. Sir Frederick Flood, a contemporary, was also well known in Irish politics. Several eminent prelates have come from the same County of Kilkenny, among them being William Daniel, or O'Donnell, Archbishop of Tuam, an Irish scholar who translated portion of the Scriptures into Irish ; John Garvey, Archbishop of Armagh in the sixteenth century ; and John Walsh, the late Catholic Archbishop of Toronto. Father Mathew is a Kilkenny man whose name is, perhaps, better known to the average Irish man, woman, and child than that of any other Irish worthy. His services and labours have been commemorated in Cork and Dublin by statues, and in many other ways his example is kept before the people. A second Father Mathew is perhaps impossible now, but there is still room for one. Father John Clarke, S.J., " The Apostle of Belgium," of the seventeenth century, also came from Kilkenny. So did Brother Edmund Ignatius Rice,

the founder of the Christian Brothers, whose great success as teachers is cordially admitted on all hands. The Rev. Edmund Hogan, S.J., the eminent Irish scholar, is also, I think, a Kilkenny man. Several artists, such as David Hackett, the great architect of Batalha ; John Comerford, the greatest of Irish miniaturists ; W. J. Hennessy, the landscapist ; and Miss Mildred Butler, a very clever painter of the day, complete the record of Kilkenny achievement.

## CHAPTER XII.—KERRY.



SPeaking generally, the Southern counties are very intellectual. Some are better than others, but all are rather remarkable. Kerry has fewer names than Limerick or Tipperary—not to mention Cork—but some of the Kerry names are very famous. As the birthplace of the O'Connell family it necessarily holds a high place. Count Daniel O'Connell, the last Colonel of the Irish Brigade (concerning whose life and family a most interesting book has been written by Mrs. Morgan O'Connell) was an eminent soldier in the service of France, and he and General Maurice (or Moritz) O'Connell, an Austrian Baron, and a distinguished soldier in the Austrian service, represent the military element in this famous family. Their services to their respective adopted countries need not be recapitulated here, but they worthily upheld the fame of Irish soldiers. Sir John O'Sullivan, another French soldier of note, was also from this county. General Sir Nicholas Trant, a Portuguese soldier of some fame, was of Kerry family. It is rather curious that they are almost the only distinguished warriors Kerry has produced, unless we include the present Lord Kitchener in the list. But though born and brought up in Kerry, Lord Kitchener has apparently no Irish blood in his veins, and his Kerry birth may be described as an accident. Still, it is interesting to speculate whether if he had been born in England he would have been a soldier at all, or whether, if he "belonged" to Limerick, for example. he

would not have been a greater soldier. Colonel Arthur Leahy was a gallant British officer who also merits some recognition. General Sir Thomas L. Gallwey, late Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Bermuda, may also be mentioned here. When we come to statesmen and administrators, Kerry gives a better record. The first Marquis of Lansdowne, better known as Lord Shelbourne, was Prime Minister of England in the eighteenth century, and his name is writ large in the history of the time. The third Marquis was also an eminent politician, while the present Marquis, a former Viceroy of India, has made a great reputation as a Foreign Minister. Sir Graham Bower, the present Administrator of Mauritius, is also, I think, a Kerry man. John O'Connor, the late distinguished Canadian statesman, was of Kerry extraction. The late Sir Edward Kenny, the Canadian statesman, and Sir Raymond West, of Indian repute, unquestionably belong to the county.

In politics the great name is, of course, that of Daniel O'Connell. As that mighty figure gets further and further away from our time, his greatness becomes more apparent—resembling, as has been remarked, a lofty mountain in that respect. But, unlike the mountain, he never disappears altogether out of sight at any time. Notwithstanding his obvious defects, which have been dilated upon to an extent that begins to pall, O'Connell did more for Ireland than any man of modern times. His personality is the only really dominating one in his epoch—say from 1820 till his death. Other very remarkable and popular politicians } have existed before and since, but it is doubtful if any man had greater gifts as a leader of men. It is much easier to see the defects in a personality which loomed so largely and so constantly before the public than in one which only now and again comes into the public eye, but it

is impossible to read, say Lecky's account of him or the able biography of Robert Dunlop—men who are not sympathisers with the Irish National sentiment—without being impressed by his astounding ability. That he could have accomplished more for Ireland than he did is very probable, but when one considers his labours at the Bar, in Parliament, and in Irish politics generally, their titanic character is most striking. His sons were clever men, but the most interesting was Maurice O'Connell, remembered chiefly as the author of some excellent poems, such as "The Recruiting Song of the Irish Brigade." John O'Connell, his elder brother, was also an able writer, but as a politician he probably did more harm than good. His "Argument for Ireland" and other books, and a couple of political poems, are evidence of his literary ability. It is worth noting, too, that O'Connell's daughter, Ellen Fitzsimon, had undoubted poetical gifts. "Her Woods of Kylinoe" is in many Irish collections.

As far as I can discover Kerry has not been specially prolific in lawyers, which many people may possibly regard as a very satisfactory feature. O'Connell is, of course, easily first, the other known names being Sir Stephen Rice, the Irish Chief Baron of the 17th century; Harman Blennerhassett, an eminent American lawyer and politician; Richard Tuohill Reid, a distinguished jurist of Bombay, and one or two others of minor repute. It is, perhaps, in literature that Kerry has done most. And yet here there is no great name. But a few of the scholars and writers from this county have added some glory to the country generally. The most important is the famous economist, Richard Cantillon, whom Jevons calls "the father of political economy." In his remarkable "Essay," originally published in French in the early part of the

eighteenth century, are the germs of nearly all later economic theories. So far-seeing was he, in fact, that his book, written so long ago, has only recently been reprinted for the use of Harvard University. Very few Irishmen are aware of the number and value of the ideas which their countrymen have given to the world. It is only too often the case that the views of Irish philosophers and thinkers have fallen on deaf ears in Ireland, only to be taken up elsewhere by foreign observers, who have elaborated them and advertised them, and secured all the kudos that could be obtained from them. Cantillon, like Fintan Lalor, is one of the most notable examples of this national indifference. Another notable writer of the eighteenth century was Dr. Bernard Connor, or O'Connor, whose works on Poland and other subjects are still valuable. He was an excellent scholar and physician, and for the time in which they were written his works are admirable. Dominic de Rosario O'Daly, the author of the authoritative "History of the Geraldines," was another eminent Kerry writer of early days. Eoghan O'Rahilly, Pierce Ferriter, Owen Roe O'Sullivan, and Geoffrey O'Donoghue were famous Gaelic poets of the eighteenth century, whose writings have been collected for the first time, and carefully published by Father Dinneen in recent years. It is, doubtless, in the native Irish literature that Kerry men have chiefly excelled. Even among the most distinguished of living Gaelic writers they are prominent, witness P. J. O'Shea ("Conan Maol"), J. J. Doyle, and the indefatigable scholar, who has just been named—the Rev. P. S. Dinneen. One of the greatest of modern Irish scholars was the late William Maunsell Hennessy, who was a worthy colleague of O'Curry and O'Donovan in the Irish Archæological and other societies. The Rev. Daniel Foley, author of the



well-known English-Irish Dictionary, was also from Kerry. Henry O'Brien, who wrote a work on the "Round Towers of Ireland," which gave rise to a great deal of discussion, was equally a native of the county. His theories are not accepted, and have been generally severely criticised, but the work is, nevertheless, a remarkable performance for a young man, who died before his abilities were fully matured. In another branch of literature, Hugh Kelly, the dramatist, earned his laurels. One or two of his plays may be still read with pleasure. He is generally said to have been the founder of the comedy of sentiment (*la comedie lar moyante*), but his plays are not without humour and vigour. Other writers include William Duckett, the United Irishman, author of several books of verse and prose, published in France, whom Wolfe Tone rather too impulsively suspected of treachery; Henry H. Breen, an official of St. Lucia, in the West Indies, and author of various poems and other writings; the Rev. Arthur B. Rowan, a learned antiquary; and Mrs. Mary Downing, the poetess, better known as "Christabel," her "Grave of M'Caura," being in several Irish anthologies. Bartholomew Dowling, the author of "The Brigade at Fontenoy" and other virile poems, and William Pembroke Mulchinock, are two other Kerry poets worthy of note; and Maurice R. Leyne, a writer whose early death was a loss to literature, must also be mentioned with them.

I have left unnoticed one of the most famous of Kerry men. St. Brendan, the Voyager, the subject of D. F. M'Carthy's fine poem, is a celebrity to be proud of. To the late Rev. Denis O'Donoghue, of Ardfert, we owe a most interesting volume, which puts on record all that is known about the great navigator. Whether he discovered America before Columbus is a moot point, but it is more than likely that the country

he described was some part of the American Continent. St. Carthach, the elder, and St. Carthach, the younger, were two other Kerry saints. There are still to be mentioned the Most Rev. Cornelius Egan, Bishop of Kerry ; that other distinguished prelate, the late Bishop David Moriarty, whose denunciation of Fenianism, to the effect that hell was not hot enough, or eternity long enough, to punish the promulgators of such a political doctrine, is well remembered ; the late Most Rev. Daniel M'Carthy ; and a celebrated Protestant prelate, the late Dr. Butcher, Bishop of Meath, whose son is the able Greek scholar, Professor S. H. Butcher. James Franklin Fuller, an architect of considerable reputation (and also a clever novelist), is the only artist from Kerry ; Professor Arthur O'Leary, the famous London teacher, is its foremost musician. It is necessary also to mention Admiral Sir Thomas Herbert and Admiral Philip H. Colomb among naval warriors ; Sir William Jeffcott, the Australian Judge ; Nicholas Madgett, the French-Irish worthy, so often named by Wolfe Tone ; Robert W. Graves, of high position in the British Consular Service ; and among notable politicians, the late Sir Maurice Fitzgerald (the Knight of Kerry), and The O'Donoghue. It is hardly realised nowadays how high the last-named stood in the affection and admiration of the Irish people forty years ago or so. It is not to be denied that even O'Donoghue's picturesque personality and the position of his family would not alone account for his enormous popularity. The fact is, he was far abler, though possibly more reckless, than some of those who have criticised his career most severely.

## CHAPTER XIII—TIPPERARY.

**T**IPPERARY is one of the few Irish counties which have succeeded in almost every department of human activity. In nearly every profession, whether of arms or arts, it comes out strongly. Tipperary is so renowned for both physical and mental giants, that the case presents a peculiarly interesting feature. Usually it is the small men who get to the top, but unless we can assume that the notable Tipperary men were the smaller inhabitants this does not hold good in the present case. In literature it more than holds its own. The Tipperary birth of that rolling stone, Laurence Sterne, was more or less of an accident, and as his is the most famous literary name from the county, the fact detracts a little from its reputation. Not that Sterne's is a name to be very proud of. No one admires his remarkable gifts more than the present writer—few people have read his works more often—but he had nothing Irish about him—not even his humour, which is too sly and suggestive for an Irishman. But his position in English literature is so assured that Clonmel will be congratulated. Another great name in literature is that of Count Anthony Hamilton, born at Roscrea, who is a French classic, not merely by his "*Memoires de Grammont*," but as much for his delicious tales, masterpieces of French literature. From the Irish point of view, of course, Charles J. Kickham is the most

honoured writer of Tipperary. His "Knocknagow" and "Sally Cavanagh" contain the most delightful pictures of Irish life to be found anywhere. These books are an excellent antidote to many of the so-called great novels of the latter half of the nineteenth century. Geoffrey Keating is another famous Tipperary man. His "History of Ireland" and "Three Shafts of Death" are by universal admission the greatest classics in modern Irish, and his poems are of considerable value. Dr. John Lanigan, author of the "Ecclesiastical History of Ireland," was a scholarly and learned writer, worthy to rank among the best of the Irish historians.

There are a great number of other literary names in the records of the county, and they may be briefly noted here. Among novelists and miscellaneous writers must be mentioned the Rev. Cæsar Otway, a somewhat bigoted but capable author; Lady Blessington, author of numerous gossiping books of travel and fiction, not without some merit; the Rev. Samuel O'Sullivan and his brother, the Rev. Mortimer O'Sullivan, both very able in polemics; the Rev. William Archer Butler, philosopher and poet, whose thoughtful poems the late Rev. R. P. Graves had begun to collect for publication, and who was much praised by the best critics of his day; Denis Scully, who wrote the best book on the Penal Laws, besides some other pamphlets less valuable; the late Richard Dowling, who wrote one fine novel, "The Mystery of Killard," and nearly achieved greatness in other stories; the Rev. Richard Baptist O'Brien, author of "Jack Hazlitt," and other popular Irish stories; Julia Kavanagh, one of the most popular novelists of the mid-nineteenth century, and whose best work is still read; Mrs. Hartley—still living (she is, I think, of Tipperary family),—whose "Flitters, Tatters

and the Counsellor" is a remarkable book, her others being very much less striking; Kathleen O'Meara ("Grace Ramsay"), a very graceful novelist, and her relative, Barry O'Meara, who was also connected with the county, and whose "Voice from St. Helena," with its intimate revelations of Napoleon, has not yet ceased to interest the world. These are only a few. John O'Leary has not been named, though his position is very considerable, and his place in Irish history assured; nor Thomas C. Luby, who has written much, including a very popular "Life of O'Connell;" nor the Rev. Laurence Renehan, an eminent divine and antiquary; nor Richard Butler, second Earl of Glengall, the dramatic author; nor Peter Burke, the genealogist and novelist, and his father, John Burke, the initiator of the famous "Peerage;" nor the more noted Sir Bernard Burke, author of many books, including the well-known "Vicissitudes of Families," more interesting than the many novels of which it has been the source; nor T. O'Brien MacMahon, an eighteenth century author of merit. Joseph Antisell Allen, a clever writer himself, is specially notable as the father of Grant Allen, the novelist. Mrs. Mannington Caffyn ("Iota") is a very successful living writer of fiction. Reference must be made to the earlier writers, like Bonaventure Baron and the Rev. Thomas Carve (or Carew), who wrote chiefly in Latin, and to the Rev. Theobald Stapleton and Peter O'Dornin (if the latter was really a Tipperary man), whose works are in Irish. O'Dornin has been claimed for Co. Louth and other counties also, but it is believed that he was born in the county now under review.

Other writers occur to one, such as the late John Augustus O'Shea, a graphic and gifted journalist; the late William P. Coyne, whose real talent lay in literary work;

Barbara Hemphill, the novelist; James F. Hogan, author of "The Irish in Australia" and other useful works; W. J. Ffennell, a noted angler and writer on Isaak Walton's favourite pastime; General Sir William F. Butler, a famous traveller, and one of the most brilliant and eloquent of chroniclers; Dr. Charles Ryan, author of a most interesting book on the medical side of the Franco-German War; Thomas Prendergast, who invented a new and valuable system of teaching languages, and whose books on the subject have gone through innumerable editions; the Rev. James Gerald Joyce, the antiquarian; and the late "Brother Azarias," a very highly-esteemed American writer, whose name was Patrick F. Mullany. Then there are the poets—Ellen O'Leary, full of feeling and patriotism; Richard Dalton Williams (of Tipperary origin), as distinguished for humour as for his patriotic fervour; Michael Doheny, who, if he had written nothing but his "Acushla Gal Machree," would stand high among Irish poets; Miss Margaret Ryan ("Alice Esmonde") who has written some touching poems; Darby Ryan, of Bansha, author of "The Peeler and the Goat," and other lyrics; Margaret A. Power, a strangely neglected poetess, a writer not without genius; W. P. Ryan, better known, perhaps, by his "Heart of Tipperary" and other stories and volumes of criticism, than as a poet, yet one with a distinct poetical gift; and Dr. J. J. Dowling, chiefly known by his admirable song, "The Claddagh Boatman."

Naturally enough, Tipperary has given us some notable divines, both Catholic and Protestant. Archbishop Patrick Leahy, Archbishop Thomas Bray, Archbishop Robert Laffan, the Rev. Barnabas Kearney, S.J., the Rev. J. L. O'Donnell ("Apostle of Newfoundland"), the Rev. Nicholas

Sheehy (one of the long roll of political martyrs)—these are distinguished names in Irish Catholic history ; the Rev. William Phelan ; the Rev. Andrew Sall, a notorious figure in his day ; the Rev. William Lee, the Rev. John Nelson Darby, a well-known religious leader ; and the Rev. Samuel Hemphill, being representative of the Churches of the minority. In this connection should be mentioned the Right Rev. William Russell, a bishop in China, who was an eminent Chinese scholar. In scholarship generally the present Professor Robert Yelverton Tyrrell is, perhaps, the best known. The name of Dr. Aquilla Smith, a notable antiquary, should also be placed on record here.

Science has not been cultivated very much, to judge by results—the late Rev. J. H. Jellett, F.R.S. ; Robert Ring, the Burmese engineer, and the Rev. Thomas Luby, the mathematician, being the foremost examples. In medical science, Dr. Dermot O'Meara and his son, Dr. Edmund O'Meara (of the 17th century), and Dr. Andrew Cantwell, Sir Joseph De Courcy Laffan, and Dr. John Moore Neligan are the chief personages. Lawyers are more numerous and notable. They are not all likely to excite enthusiasm. Lord Chief Justice Christian, Edward and Richard Pennefather, the judges ; Charles Kendal Bushe (an orator of some power), William J. Duane, an American jurist of high position, and the present Serjeant Hemphill are the best known—if we except the disreputable John Toler, Lord Norbury, for whom Tipperary is also responsible.

Geoffrey Baron, the seventeenth century rebel, had his prototype in later times, in Henry Howley, executed in 1803. They are more than a set-off to John Sadleir, of sordid memory. Of military men, Tipperary has produced

General T. F. Burke, the Fenian officer; the first Lord Bloomfield, a noted General; the impetuous General Sir John Lysaght Pennefather, Sir Hugh Gough, V.C., and Sir Charles Gough, V.C.; General W. J. Dunham-Massy (of the Redan), General Sir Loftus Otway, General Sir William S. Power, General Sir Geoffrey Prendergast, General Sir Phineas Riall, General Sir Richard Doherty, or O'Doherty, distinguished as Colonial Governor as well as soldier, and Henry Montmorency Morris, an American soldier and writer of distinction—a group to be considered from several different points of view. Most of them were brave officers in the English service—a few of the countless soldiers Ireland has given to English empire-building. Only two famous naval men are from Tipperary—Admiral Sir Henry Kellet, the Arctic navigator, and Admiral Sir Robert Waller Otway, his contemporary; but Sir William Carroll, already named under Wicklow, was of Tipperary family. In Colonial history reference must be made to Sir John O'Shanassy, the Victorian Premier; Sir Edward Ryan, the Indian judge; Charles, the fourth Viscount Monck, an eminent colonial governor, born in the county, though, perhaps, properly belonging to Wicklow; and George Thomas, that extraordinary leader of the Sikhs in India, a very remarkable man, whose career seems almost impossible outside a novel. I have not referred to Joshua Jacob, the "White Quaker," nor to Elizabeth Hamilton, Countess of Grammont ("La Belle Hamilton"), nor to Lady Eleanor Butler, the recluse, one of the "Maids of Llangollen"; nor to Dudley Bradstreet, the adventurer; nor to Vincent Scully, M.P., lawyer and politician; nor to the Rev. John Walker, founder of the "Walkerites"; nor to the names in art, music, and the drama, which include those of Signor Foli (Allan James Foley) and



Charles Manners, the bass singers; John Latham, the eminent portrait painter; and Howard Dudley, the wood engraver; Jack Johnstone, the comedian; William Huntly M'Carthy ("Huntly May"), an excellent actor; and Sophie Eyre, the actress; but I think I have shown that the "premier" county has a first-rate intellectual record.

## CHAPTER XIV.—KING'S COUNTY.



**A**MONG the places which have done less well than might have been expected is King's County. Yet, strangely enough, science is more indebted to it than to any other of the Midland counties. It would be rather remarkable if six eminent living scientists were to come from one particular Irish city, but when they are all natives of a Midland county it is even more curious. The letters F.R.S. mean much in the scientific world—they mean that those who are entitled to them have done important work in science, or made important discoveries, and of the living Fellows of the Royal Society half a dozen belong to the King's County. They are the present Earl of Rosse, well-known in astronomical work; the Hon. Charles Parsons, his brother, the inventor of the now famous turbine which is beginning to revolutionise steamship travel, and is destined to do wonders for future locomotion; Professor Charles J. Joly, the Astronomer Royal of Ireland; his brother, Professor John Joly, the geologist and physicist; Professor George Johnstone Stoney, another noted astronomer and natural philosopher, and his brother, Bindon B. Stoney, a distinguished engineer and author of some valuable works, such as his "Theory of Stresses in Girders, etc." This is an excellent record for one county, but I have yet to mention the late Earl of Rosse, one of the leading astronomers of his day.

Poetry, the supposed antithesis of science, is one of the things in which the same county has also done something.

The result is not very exceptional, but from this county came John D. Frazer ("J. de Jean"), some of whose admirable effusions are as familiar as household words, notably "Brosna's Banks"; John Boyle, the Irish-American poet, whose best known poem is, perhaps, "Arthur M'Coy"; T. W. Rolleston, whose "Dead at Clonmacnoise," not to speak of his other admirable poems, must find a place in all good Irish anthologies; Kenelm H. Digby, author of many poems, but whose "Mores Catholici," a most learned work, is his chief claim to remembrance; Mrs. A. M. Munster, a graceful poetess; and, lastly, poor John T. Kelly, who, over the signature of "Hy-many" and his initials, wrote some of the most stirring songs of the last two decades.

The drama is indebted to King's County for Joseph Sterling Coyne (whose name always sounds like a joke), author of numerous plays; and Charles Molloy, one of the eighteenth century playwrights. There was another Charles Molloy, an eminent legal writer of the seventeenth century, also from King's County. As the name has been mentioned, this is the place to note the eminent songwriter and musical composer, James Lynam Molloy, whose "Kerry Dance," "Darby and Joan," "Just a Song at Twilight," "Bantry Bay," and many other songs, have achieved enormous popularity.

Other eminent King's County men were Eliot Warburton, a very accomplished writer (of Galway and Wicklow parentage), whose "Crescent and the Cross" is one of the most picturesque books of travel in the English language, and whose tragic death seems to have been foreshadowed in one of his novels; William J. O'Neill Daunt, whose historical writings are very well known; Richard Hussey Walsh, the political economist; William Stewart Trench,

whose "Realities of Irish Life," though one-sided, is a very clever performance; William O'Connor Morris; and Professor William Ridgeway, of Cambridge, the distinguished Greek scholar. A few notable soldiers, including General Edward Hand, the American warrior; Colonel Thomas Lloyd, Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Brereton, and General J. R. Hume, a Crimean veteran still living, practically complete the record; David Collins, an eminent colonial governor of the eighteenth century, and the Hon. Hugh Mahon, late Postmaster-General in the first Labour Cabinet of the Australian Commonwealth, being the only other notables I can discover. That very obnoxious personage, Captain J. W. Armstrong, the betrayer of the Brothers Sheares, hardly adds lustre to the county.

## CHAPTER XV.—QUEEN'S COUNTY.



QUEEN'S COUNTY can show a more generally distinguished list, but it has done nothing in science worthy of mention. With the exception of the eminent military engineer, Sir John J. Grinlinton; Henry Marsh, one of the leading Indian engineers; Dr. Bartholomew Mosse, the physician, founder of the Rotunda Lying-in Hospital, the first (I think) in Europe; and Dr. Arthur Jacob, the celebrated oculist, Queen's County may be said to have helped little in scientific progress; however, those named reflect some credit on it, which has been more distinguished in literature and in warlike deeds than in any other way. Take the poets. First, there is John Keegan, whose excellent writings were collected by the late Canon O'Hanlon, and are about to be published, a valuable addition to Irish literature. Then there is Miss Elinor M. Sweetman, a clever poetess, who is of Queen's County family; Jacob Thompson Dunne, whose poems have only a local vogue; James Jeffrey Roche, the well-known American poet and journalist; Peter Borrowes Kelly, well known in his day; and the late Canon O'Hanlon himself, whose "Legend Lays of Ireland" are somewhat obscured by his learned writings of another kind. The lamented author of "The Lives of the Irish Saints" rendered great services to his country, his "Irish-American History" being the latest of them; but it is his great work on the Irish Saints which will best preserve his memory. His

writings are so numerous that I have not space to mention them—besides they are very well known. He was engaged prior to his death on “A History of Queen’s County,” which would have been a monument of learning.

Other writers to be named are the agreeable, but not always reliable, Sir Jonah Barrington, whose “Personal Recollections” and “Historic Memoirs of Ireland” (otherwise known as “The Rise and Fall of the Irish Nation”) are most fascinating reading; “M. E. Francis” (Mrs. Blundell, *nee* Sweetman), the admirable living novelist, who, though not born in the county, has a close connection with it; Captain J. J. Dunne, who, under the name of “Hi-Regan,” has written an excellent book on Irish fishing, and under the initials of “H.R.N.,” a work called “Here and There Memories,” full of amusing stories, and whose daughter, “George Egerton,” has written some of the cleverest fiction of our time; Father Joseph Farrell, a charming essayist, whose “Lectures of a Certain Professor” deserves to be a classic; and the Rev. Dr. John (“Jacky”) Barrett, who was also, I fancy, of Queen’s County origin. He is remembered chiefly as an eccentric, but he was a first-rate scholar, and his book on Swift is very good. I have not mentioned Walter Harris, one of the most learned of Irish antiquaries and historians; John Thaddeus Delane, a famous editor of the *Times* (whose people were from Queen’s County); Thomas Prior, the estimable author of the “List of Irish Absentees” and other patriotic works; Vincent Dowling, a pre-Union satirist, and subsequently an eminent sporting writer in London; Sheffield Grace, the antiquary; W. J. Corbet, author of a poem on “The Battle of Fontenoy” and other pieces; Thomas Browne (“Jonathan Buckthorn”), editor of the *Comet* and a powerful assailant of the Tithe system;

and Mrs. Egerton Castle (*nee* Sweetman) the present novelist, and member of a clever Queen's County family.

I have yet to name perhaps the greatest of its writers—James Fintan Lalor, whose burning, passionate defence of the people's rights should be known to every Irishman. He was the first to declare war on the private ownership of land, and his theories, buried in the files of the *Nation* and *Irish Felon*, until the present writer collected and published his brilliant letters and articles, became known throughout the world in the books of Henry George, who did not acknowledge his indebtedness to the remarkable '48 man from Queen's County. Few political writers wielded a pen with more virility than Lalor, whose command of language, power of reasoning, and eloquence have rarely, if ever, been surpassed.

Several distinguished soldiers are among the notables of the county. Some of them earned fame and reward by dragooning the native Irish—men like Sir Charles Coote, the first Earl of Mountrath, and his brother, Richard Coote, Earl of Bellamont, and Sir Barnaby Fitzpatrick, who killed Rory O'More. Others again, like General John Despard, General Sir H. M. Cosby, General Sir F. W. Trench, and Humphrey Bland, fought England's battles elsewhere, and fought them well. Gallant Rory O'More's is the chief name from the county so far as Irish national soldiers are concerned, and it would not be right to forget Colonel Edward Marcus Despard, a born rebel, who suffered death for his revolt against the powers that be. Captain John Shaw, a noted commander in the American navy; Admiral Sir Hovenden Walker, and Admiral Phillips Cosby, a British worthy of repute, cannot be omitted, and among eminent administrators must be included Richard Fitzpatrick, afterwards Lord Gowran;

Joseph Wall, an eminent Colonial Governor ; Sir William Des Voeux, Governor of several of the chief British dependencies ; and James Edward Fitzgerald, a former Premier of New Zealand, who belonged to Queen's County by family. Sir John Edge, the distinguished Indian Judge, is a Queen's County man ; Peter Lalor ; and Sir James Dowling, an eminent English Judge of the past century, was almost certainly one. William Shoney O'Brien, one of the owners, with Mackay, Flood and Fair, his countrymen, of the famous Bonanza mines, may also find a place here.

As an orator and lawyer, Peter Burrowes enjoyed a great reputation a century ago, and, in later days, the Rev. D. W. Cahill was a popular preacher and lecturer (his addresses having been collected in a portly volume). It only remains to add that Launt Thompson, the American sculptor, and Kivas Tully, the Canadian architect and engineer, both belong to Queen's County, and that the latter's daughter, Miss Sydney S. Tully, is a well-known Canadian artist.



## CHAPTER XVI.—MAYO.



IN some Irish counties, where personages of note are not very numerous, a high average level may be reached, and the general importance is consequently greater. Mayo, for example, has produced some very remarkable celebrities, and yet the number of worthies from that county is not very large. Unlike some other localities, which can show a great many names, a few only of which are really important, Mayo has comparatively few names, but they are often very distinguished. The man whose name and position has been of late in everybody's mouth—Sir Antony MacDonnell—is one of the most famous of Mayo men. That such a man, with such a record as his, should consent to occupy a post of a subordinate nature in Ireland is almost inexplicable. Having reached the highest administrative positions in India by force of ability and character, it is certainly only a strong sense of patriotism which could induce so notable a man to accept a position in Ireland which, compared with his former offices, must appear petty. It is men like Sir Antony MacDonnell who have made British rule in India possible, but someone has said that the success of Irishmen as rulers elsewhere proves their unfitness to rule at home. Other Mayo men have been eminent in India. Among them Sir Alexander Arbuthnot and his brother, the late Sir Charles Arbuthnot, were very distinguished. Both have been members of the Council of India, and have wielded enormous power and influence in this greatest of English possessions. The former is also an able writer, as

his "Life of Lord Clive" and other works show. Other members of the same family have also distinguished themselves. Charles Arbuthnot was an eminent diplomatist in the early nineteenth century, and his sons, General Sir Thomas Arbuthnot and General Sir Robert Arbuthnot, have a considerable name in British military annals. These five men form a group which only few families could show. Other soldiers of note from Mayo are General Sir James Jackson, General George O'Malley, and General Patrick Lynch, and perhaps the present General Sir J. P. Brabazon may also be mentioned, being one of the few generals who came through the South Africa War without discredit. The eminent official, Sir James Gildea, is also from Mayo. Henry Blosse Lynch and his brother, Thomas Kerr Lynch, the well-known explorers, were also from the same county.

The Hon. Charles Christopher Bowen, the distinguished New Zealand statesman, and his relative the late Lord Justice Charles Bowen, one of the most accomplished men who ever sat on the English Bench, naturally come into any review of the achievements of Mayo men. Lord Justice Bowen, as may be seen in the admirable biography of him, was one of the most charming personalities of his time. As judge, as scholar, and as litterateur, he was equally notable, and few lawyers in England were ever so highly esteemed. Other notable natives of the county were the warlike Grace O'Malley, renowned in song and story, whose name has become synonymous with that of Ireland, so great was her prowess; Cormac Dall, the famous harper; Thomas Flavel, the poet, whose "County of Mayo" has been so beautifully Englished by George Fox; and William Brown, a celebrated Argentine naval hero and statesman. Cathal O'Connor, known as the

"red-handed," who flourished in the twelfth century, was a very prominent personage in Irish history. A very striking figure in modern Ireland was Archbishop John MacHale, "The Lion of the Fold of Judah." His was, next to O'Connell's, the most powerful personality in the country in the earlier part of the last century. His fame as a preacher, as an administrator, and as a scholar, impressed the public mind so strongly that if anyone were asked to name the greatest Irishman from the date of O'Connell's death till his own in 1881, most people would have unhesitatingly answered "Archbishop MacHale." His translation into Irish of "Moore's Melodies," and portion of Homer's "Iliad," is proof of his knowledge of and interest in native Irish literature. The only Protestant ecclesiastic born in the county of whom I can discover any record was Bishop Walter Shirley, a prelate of only moderate renown.

Dr. Patrick Browne, the distinguished naturalist of the eighteenth century; the late lamented Dr. Ambrose Bermingham, the surgeon; Professor R. J. Kinkead, M.D., the physician, and Louis Brennan, inventor of the Brennan torpedo, are the only Mayo men of whom the scientific world takes any cognisance. John Blake Dillon, the '48 man, one of the founders of the "Nation," and his still more notable son, John Dillon, must be ranked among the leading Irish politicians. J. B. Dillon seems to have written little, though a prominent Young Irelander, and a man of considerable ability. He was, perhaps, the only important member of that great party who was not a poet or journalist. His son, John Dillon, has also eschewed authorship. His career has been self-sacrificing and strenuous, and even his enemies, in the hottest conflicts, have borne testimony to his single-mindedness. As an

orator he is very successful—few men have such power over an Irish audience. His brother, William Dillon, is the only literary member of the family, his “Life of John Mitchel” and his book on political economy, “The Dismal Science,” being known to many readers. He is one of the chief journalists of Chicago. Michael Davitt holds an unique position in public life. Starting life on a small homestead in Mayo, through the successive stages of workman in England, Fenian, political convict, and member of Parliament, he has earned the respect and esteem of all men, and to-day he is not only one of the most notable men in contemporary life, but he is also a vigorous and powerful writer. From the small book on his prison life to his admirable work on “The Fall of Feudalism in Ireland” is a far cry. *Then* he was considered as a kind of notorious criminal—*now* he is one of the most widely-read authors and journalists of the day and a man of world-wide reputation. As founder of the Land League he rendered a service to Irish tenants which only they can appreciate. Sir John Gray was another eminent native of the county. His journalistic and political services to Ireland were very many, but the statue erected to him in the principal thoroughfare of Dublin commemorates his labours in procuring the magnificent water supply which has made the city an object of envy among cities. His son, Edmund Dwyer Gray, was a worthy successor in politics and journalism. Other politicians who cannot be overlooked were Edward Duffy, the Fenian, who died young in prison, a fine type of Irishman, ready to suffer all for a National ideal, and the late J. F. Taylor, one of the intellectual giants of his time. It is regrettable that one so marvellously gifted as an orator and as a writer should have left so little behind him to perpetuate his name. His small book on

"Owen Roe O'Neill" is excellent, but no one who knew him and admired his powerful intellect, his extraordinary range of knowledge, and his intense patriotism, can accept that as more than barely suggesting the ability of its author. As an orator he had few equals, even among Irish orators. It is a great pity that somebody who knew him well does not write a memoir, and collect the scattered speeches and articles of this truly great Irishman. Another orator and politician who filled a larger place in history than poor J. F. Taylor, but who was not abler in any sense, was George Henry Moore, M.P. He was one of the foremost Irishmen of his time, and was considered a great orator, but here again is an instance of the way Irish genius is neglected by Irish people. It was announced after his death that Moore's many splendid speeches were being collected for publication by the Rev. P. Lavelle, a popular Mayo priest, known as the author of "The Irish Landlord since the Revolution," but the volume never appeared, and, consequently, the great reputation of George Henry Moore as an orator must be taken on trust.

His son, the George Moore of our own time, is the best known Irish novelist living. Very little of what he has written can be called Irish in any sense, but the power of several of his novels cannot be contested. His later books are infinitely superior to those of his early days, though, perhaps, he has written nothing more interesting than an autobiographical novel which he published almost at the outset of his career. The best things he has written are in essay form—the brilliant book on "Modern Painting" for example—and even those parts of his novels or short stories which partake of the essay form are his best pages. Many readers are repelled by his subjects, his characters, and methods,

but his position in literature is widely recognised. Other Mayo writers are Mrs. Mary Jane Serrano, the Irish-American author; Edward J. Sears, the American journalist; Patrick J. Coleman, an admirable poet, now in America; Olivia Knight (now Mrs. Hope Connolly), the poetess "Thomasine" of the *Nation*; Thomas J. Flannery, a notable Gaelic scholar and editor; Martin Haverty, the author of the well-known "History of Ireland;" and Matthew Archdeacon, a sometime popular novelist, whose "Legends of Connaught," "Everard," etc., are still remembered. Robert Nugent Owenson, father of Lady Morgan, was a Mayo man, and besides being a very noted actor and singer, was also a song-writer and musical composer. Eneas MacDonnell, a popular lawyer and politician of the O'Connellite period, must be included in any list of eminent Mayo men. The chief poet produced by Mayo, however, was the late William Larminie, whose work is very unequal, but at its best is very fine. His "West-Irish Folk Tales" is the better known of his volumes, but it is to be hoped that his remarkable translation of the Latin writings of John Scotus Erigena, now in manuscript, will be published. Patrick G. Smyth, author of the "Wild Rose of Lough Gill," is also from Mayo; and Louisa Stuart Costello, the poetess, and translator of French and Persian poems, and her brother Dudley Costello, an artist and traveller, were of Mayo parentage. St. Cellagh (of the sixth century), and St. Kieran are the two most famous saints of Mayo, and George Robert ("Fighting") Fitzgerald its most notorious sinner. His ability was as undoubted as it was misdirected.

## CHAPTER XVII.—CARLOW.



CARLOW is the smallest county in Ireland, and, therefore, too much should not be expected from it. Though it is the smallest, however, one or two great men have owed their birth to it. The most important of them, from a general point of view, is unquestionably John Tyndall, F.R.S., the famous natural philosopher, who was born in the village of Leighlin Bridge. His services to science were manifold, but he was not only a discoverer; he had an extraordinary sense of style, and this makes his scientific works—"Light," "Sound," "Heat," and some of his "Fragments of Science," fascinating reading. Notwithstanding some rather wild theories, which he subsequently modified, his position in modern science is among the highest. It is a pity that he allowed himself to wander beyond the limits of ascertained fact, but he had something of the poet in him that induced him to indulge in daring speculation, and which is the cause of much of the picturesqueness of his works. Another eminent scientist of Carlow was the late Professor Samuel Houghton, F.R.S., a distinguished physician, and an Irishman of wide and friendly sympathy, one of the not too numerous scientific men who have taken an interest in other than inanimate things. Nicholas Aylward Vigors, F.R.S., the naturalist, was still another eminent Carlow scientist. To their names may be added those of William Dargan, the noted engineer and the projector and financial supporter of the great Dublin

Exhibition; Samuel Downing, also a noted engineer, and William T. Doyne, a brilliant member of the same profession in Australia; John Hood, the inventor, and Sir Arthur Brooke Faulkner, M.D., a distinguished physician.

Of Carlow writers, the most accomplished and learned is the venerable Cardinal Moran, who, curiously enough, was born in the same village as Tyndall. The Cardinal's valuable works in Irish history and archæology are rather numerous; several of them have been brought within popular reach, and have had a wide circulation; others are chiefly known to the learned, and can be best appreciated by them. Of his ecclesiastical distinction, this is not the place to speak. Carlow has given us other writers, such as the sarcastic Dr. John Brennan, whose boldness in attacking all who did not please him was rather notorious, and who did not even accept the view that the dead sinner was to be left alone, his reading of a proverbial saying being as follows:—

“ De mortuis nil nisi bonum—  
When scoundrels die, let all bemoan 'em.”

He was a very competent physician, and his use of turpentine in puerperal fever was a valuable discovery. Other literary men who may be claimed for Carlow are Samuel Derrick, the eighteenth century poet and Bohemian (his family being from the county); James Murphy, the well-known novelist of the present day; W. J. Onahan, a notable Irishman of Chicago, who has done much for Irish literature; Benjamin Bloomfield Feltus, a clever poet of the middle of the last century; Dr. Andrew Commings, author of many poems in the *Nation* and other papers; and the late John M'Call, who began his literary career, apart from stray verses and stories, by publishing a small history of Clonmore, his native place, and continued it by his



investigations into the history of Irish Almanacs and Diaries, into Mangan's life, and into the biography of obscurer but deserving Irish writers. It is also said that the famous journalist of the present day, Dr. E. J. Dillon, is a Carlow man, but that is a question I am unable to settle. Sir William Brereton, a celebrated soldier; General Sir Dudley St. Leger Hill, a distinguished military officer of more modern days; Captain Edwin Richards; John Ryan, the historian of Carlow; James Haughton and Thomas Pleasants, the philanthropists; William Baillie, the distinguished engraver; Frank O'Meara, the admirable artist of the Barbizon school, whose early death is greatly to be regretted; and the late Arthur M'Murrough Kavanagh, who, born without arms or legs, was able to triumph over his terrible affliction, and to ride, shoot, and write well, and who was, indeed, a man of remarkable intellect, are the remaining worthies of Carlow to be named.

## CHAPTER XVIII.—LONGFORD.



LONGFORD'S scientific men are not, perhaps, as notable as those of Carlow, but one or two of them have done distinguished work. Professor Francis Y. Edgeworth, a very fine mathematician and scientific economist, is of course a member of the well-known Longford family, as was also Michael P. Edgeworth, the botanist. George Edward Dobson, F.R.S., the zoologist, was a native of Edgeworthstown; James Forbes, F.R.S., chiefly known as a distinguished Orientalist, was of a Longford family, and I think General Sir J. H. Lefroy, F.R.S., eminent in science and as a Colonial administrator, was also connected with the county. Sir Edward Sinclair, M.D., and Dr. William H. Thompson D.Sc., were two other Longford men who won recognition in medicine. These names exhaust, I think, the list of scientists. In other professions and occupations the county has rendered greater service. In literature two famous names appear. Oliver Goldsmith's Longford birth has been questioned, and with some show of reason, but the probability is that Pallas will keep its claim to him to the end. Whether actually born in the county or in adjoining Roscommon, though useful knowledge for present purposes, does not affect the world in general in any way. That Goldsmith existed, and that he wrote his delicious story of "The Vicar of Wakefield," his charming essays, his universally appealing "Traveller" and "Deserted Village," and his two wonderful comedies, are enough. His works

are almost the only ones of the dull period in which he wrote which do not seem to have lost anything of their original freshness and simplicity. The Irish influences which moulded Goldsmith's genius have never been adequately discussed, and his own true Irish nature is only superficially appreciated. There is an Irish quality in his books almost entirely absent from those of his contemporaries. Some trace of it is found in the later Maria Edgeworth, but Goldsmith mixed more with the people in his earlier years than Miss Edgeworth ever could.

Maria Edgeworth, though not born in Ireland at all, is the other literary glory of Longford. Few of her books have survived ; some of them were too obviously written for moral purposes to escape the charge of preachiness, and eventually only the Irish stories will stand time's test. "Castle Rackrent" and "The Absentee" would have an historical value even if they failed to attract the ordinary reader. But they are, after all is said in their favour, an outside view of the Irish people—however, they show that even in her day the Irish people were beginning to be looked at from an other than completely alien standpoint. But for what can be considered only as the baneful influence of her father her books would probably have far more vitality. That excellent but pious person had morality—in the preachy sense—on the brain, and thought nothing should ever be written at all unless for strictly moral purposes. A book can be highly moral without its writer constantly impressing upon the reader that it is so, and it is somewhat depressing to find one is reading a tract in the guise of a novel, even as one feels rather disgusted at the discovery that one had been reading, wrapped up in a thrilling adventure, a quack's advertisement. Richard Lovell Edgeworth was a very clever and a very worthy man, and some

of his ideas were worthy of all praise, but the reader of his "Memoirs" will hardly fail to come to the conclusion that one can be very wise and very philanthropic and yet be a nuisance. He was, notwithstanding, the founder of a wonderful family, and some of his better faculties were used in a very serviceable way.

Another member of the family was the distinguished Abbe Edgeworth, remembered in the history of France for his services to the French Royal family. He accompanied Louis XVI. to the scaffold, and his memorable words—"Fils de St. Louis, montez au ciel!" are not even yet forgotten. I do not recall any other eminent Catholic ecclesiastic from Longford. The most notable of the Protestant ecclesiastics are the well-known eighteenth-century Bishop of Meath, Dr. Thomas L. O'Beirne, author of various works, and the present Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. Peacocke. The well-known Orange poet and historical writer, the Rev. John Graham, author of "*Derriana*," of "*Annals of Ireland*," and the popular "*No Surrender*" song, is generally stated to have been a native of Longford, but it is probable that he was born in Fermanagh. The poets of Longford of real ability—apart from Goldsmith—are only two—William Geoghegan, an Irish-American writer, and Patrick Colm, the very promising young poet of the present time in Dublin. Curiously enough, no soldiers of any note, except General George Forbes, the sixth Earl of Granard, seems to have come from this county, but there have been a few seamen, particularly Admiral John Forbes, Admiral George Forbes, the third Earl of Granard, and Admiral Montague Shul-lam—all three of some renown. It is just possible also that Admiral Hercules Robinson was born in Longford, but the family is said to have belonged to Meath, and

certainly the two most distinguished members of it were closely connected with Meath. Sir Bryan Robinson, a late eminent Colonial judge, related to the same family, may have come from Longford, as also Chief Justice Thomas Lefroy, but I cannot say for certain. Sir Francis Pakenham, a diplomatist of high rank, also apparently owes some allegiance to it. But these are probabilities. We are on surer ground when we come to Charles Clinton, the American revolutionary patriot, a great name in American history. His son, George Clinton, became Vice-President of the United States, and one of his grandsons was De Witt Clinton, who originated the Erie Canal, and was a very prominent figure in his time. The present Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Reynolds, V.C., a noted army doctor, and the Rev. Sir George Fetherston, a clever amateur musician, are also of Longford origin. An undoubted native of the county was the celebrated Chartist, James Bronterre O'Brien, a most remarkable man, generally recognised as the brain of that great movement. Francis R. Forbes, the diplomatist, was a member of the Granard family; and the Rev. Richard Butler, M.R.I.A., an excellent antiquary, and Samuel W. Blackall, the Colonial administrator, must also be named in this chapter.

## CHAPTER XIX.—CAVAN.



**A**MONG the smaller counties which have distinguished themselves, Cavan gives very good results. Its record is not a very surprising one, but as the native place of the Sheridans and the Brookes in literature, and of some famous soldiers and lawyers, it has a good place. I am rather uncertain whether General Alexander O'Reilly, the eminent Spanish soldier, was from Cavan, but he very probably was. In the eighteenth century there were few more distinguished generals. Field Marshal Thomas Brady, a contemporary of his later years, who served with immense distinction in the Austrian service, certainly was from Cavan. Anything like a complete record of the Irish soldiers who won renown in foreign lands seems impossible, but it is to be regretted that the material partly utilised by O'Callaghan and O'Connor in their works is not put into some readable shape. A very remarkable book on these Irish soldiers could be written if some willing and competent student would take it up. The material is ample, and only awaits the historian. In such a book Field Marshal Brady would occupy an honoured place among the Lacys, Nugents, O'Reillys, Brownes, O'Briens, Taaffes, and Dillons. In later days Cavan has produced General St. George Mervyn Nugent, of the British service ; and Colonel Patrick H. O'Rorke, of the American army ; and General R. M. Clifford and General R. C. Clifford, living soldiers who have seen some service, may be briefly mentioned here.

In law and literature, there is a better display. William Sheridan, the Bishop of Kilmore, his son, the Rev. Dr. Thomas Sheridan, friend of Swift, an excellent scholar and writer, are the two earliest notable Sheridans, the son of the last, Thomas Sheridan, the actor and elocutionist, being a most interesting personality. His solitary farce and his attempts at lexicography are long since forgotten, but he was one of the most discussed personages of his day, a proof that he had done something to warrant it. The very diversity of opinion about him indicates his importance. His son, Richard Brinsley Sheridan, was born in Dublin, but Cavan can well claim to have some right to him. Another family of almost equal force of literary heredity was that of the Brookes. Henry Brooke, the author of "*The Fool of Quality*," and of many other books, some good and some bad, was one of the literary giants of his day. People do not now read "*The Fool of Quality*"—its length tends to tediousness—but many notable critics have testified to its great merits. In political warfare Brooke took a leading part, and he wrote some very useful and vigorous pamphlets of a more or less patriotic character. His brother, Robert Brooke, a Colonial administrator of some repute, also had patriotic leanings, and the latter's nephew, Thomas Digby Brooke, was possessed of some literary taste, witness his "*History of St. Helena*" (of which his uncle was Governor), his account of Napoleon, recently brought to light, and other works. Henry Brooke's daughter, Charlotte (one of twenty-two children) gave evidence of her interest in Ireland in her well-known "*Reliques of Irish Poetry*," a very creditable work considering the time it was done. Another member of the family was William Henry Brooke, the artist and illustrator; and, coming down later, the Rev. Richard Sinclair

Brooke, a religious writer of merit, and his son, Stopford Brooke, the eminent poet and critic, must be mentioned as descendants. The latter, however, is a Donegal man by birth.

Other Cavan writers of modern times were Edward O'Reilly, the Irish scholar and lexicographer; Hugh Reilly, author of a popular Catholic account of Ireland; J. L. Farley (of Cavan family), a noted traveller and author; Brochill Newburgh, an interesting poet of the early eighteenth century; and the Rev. Faithful Tate, a religious poet, etc., and father of Nahum Tate, the Poet Laureate. Doctor John Curry, historian of the Civil Wars of Ireland, was also of Cavan origin. More important still, Dallan Forgaill, the ancient poet, was of Cavan, and Ferdircha O'Farrelly, Philip M'Brady, and Fiachra M'Brady, other Gaelic poets, must also be mentioned. Saint Kilian was also from what is now called Cavan, and Philip M'Hugh O'Reilly, the rebel, helps to swell the list. So does Cahir M'Cabe, the poet and harper. In more recent times, Patrick Donahoe, the well-known American publisher and founder of the *Boston Pilot*; and Mrs. Mary Anne Sadleir, whose novels are extremely popular among the Irish people here and in the States, owe their birth to the same county.

One of the greatest of economists was the late William Edward Hearn, LL.D., and his name reflects great lustre on Cavan. The eminent surgeon, William Dease, to whom a statue is erected in the Dublin College of Surgeons, also came from Cavan, as did the father of P. J. Smyth, the '48 man and brilliant orator, one of the best, Mr. Gladstone admitted, he had ever heard in the House of Commons. Patrick Carolan, a classical scholar of the latter part of the eighteenth century;



Surgeon-General Samuel B. Roe, an army doctor of reputation ; Sir John Young, afterwards Lord Lisgar, a notable Colonial Governor ; Loftus Prendergast Walsh, and David Norton, Indian officials of high rank ; Baron Palles, one of the greatest lawyers of his age ; Thomas Lough, M.P., an able politician and a persistent advocate for fair financial treatment of Ireland by England, a subject upon which he has written much and well ; Colonel Edward Saunderson, the leader of the Orange party ; the Rev. E. H. Dewart, the Canadian poet, and Miss Agnes O'Farrelly, one of the best known of living Gaelic writers—all are from Cavan, I have yet to mention Archbishop Edmund M'Gauran, the Rev. Thomas Maguire, the Catholic champion, the echoes of whose controversy with the Rev. R. T. Pope a great many years ago have not yet died out ; the present Rev. T. A. Finlay, S.J., the distinguished educationalist, and his brother, the Rev. Peter Finlay, S.J. Finally, the well-known Irish public official, Sir Robert Micks, and E. W. D. Cuming, a distinguished journalist and critic of the day, are worthy of mention.

## CHAPTER XX.—MONAGHAN.



MONAGHAN'S slighter record is, nevertheless, a very interesting one. Speaking from a literary point of view, its two chief names are those of Professor J. B. Bury and Sir Charles Gavan Duffy. The first-named is not alone one of the best of living historians, he is a very great scholar. His "History of Greece" is a monument of learning and literary ability and as the author is still young, much finer work may be expected from him. The fact of his being chosen to succeed the late Lord Acton in the Chair of Modern History at Cambridge is a proof of the high opinion formed of Professor Bury by the learned world. In many respects, Sir Charles Gavan Duffy is a much more important name. As a poet, as the founder of the *Nation*, as a great journalist, as an Irish patriot, Duffy fills a larger place in modern Irish affairs. His ability as an English Colonial administrator was unquestioned also, but he will be chiefly remembered for his services to Ireland and Irish literature. It is difficult to appraise these. His own books, "Young Ireland," "Four Years of Irish History," "Life of Thomas Davis," and other volumes, can be easily judged. They are most brilliant sketches of the history of our times, and must ever remain to his credit. His occasional prejudice and bias against some of his contemporaries—such as O'Connell and Mitchel—do not improve their historical value and reliability, but allowance may be made for them. It was, perhaps, more by his personal actions than by

what he wrote that Irish literature was so largely benefited. He encouraged men, who would not otherwise have done so, to give their literary services to Ireland, and the result was largely the Young Ireland literature after the death of Davis. One of his fellow-townsmen was Thomas Devin Reilly, a spirited writer for the *Nation* under his editorship, and whose fiery essays on temporary and sometimes trumpery matters can be read even yet with interest.

Several excellent poets also came from Monaghan, notably Mrs. Ellen Forrester, who has written some most Irish and admirable pieces. Her son, Arthur M. Forrester, was also a clever poet, and a very prominent American journalist. The Rev. Patrick A. Murray, a distinguished Catholic theologian and essayist, was also a true poet in his way. James Tighe, the friend of Mangan, did good service as a temperance poet, and the late John Hand deserves this brief tribute.

Other authors of Monaghan origin are the late Dr. T. C. S. Corry, a patriotic Irish physician, who wrote, amongst other things, an interesting book on Ireland; and the Rev. Canon Robinson, author of a grammar and other works connected with the Hausa language, and other learned works. To them may be added a distinguished classical scholar of the present day, Professor Thomas W. Dougan, of Queen's College, Belfast. The late Bishop J. R. Darley was another notable classical scholar. The Rev. John Anketell, probably a Monaghan man, was a poet and divine of some standing in the eighteenth century; the Rev. Archibald Maclaine was another distinguished divine of the same period; and the Rev. Anketell M. Henderson was a notable Wesleyan of Australia. The brother of the former, James Maclaine, was one of the most notorious highwaymen of that day; and

Richard Poekrich, inventor of the musical glasses, and an accomplished initiator of projects, was assuredly one of the most interesting of his contemporaries. The Rev. William Maxwell, the friend of Dr. Johnson, was also from Monaghan, as was also Arthur Moore, a politician and statesman of considerable fame in the eighteenth century. Lord Blayney is the only distinguished Monaghan soldier I can find trace of, and the present Admiral Sir George D. Morant is the only man of naval importance. Sir William Whitla and Lieutenant-Colonel William Temple, V.C., are the only men in medical science worth naming, and in art, Henry MacManus, a popular painter and excellent art teacher of his day, and the present Alexander Williams are the principal representatives of Monaghan. Of course, Francis A. Tarleton, the mathematician, must not be omitted. The chief Catholic divine of recent times from Monaghan appears to have been the Most Rev. Patrick N. Lynch, Bishop of Charleston, U.S.A. But to conclude by going back to the seventeenth century, Heber MacMahon, the bishop, and Hugh Oge MacMahon, the rebel, deserve an honoured place in Monaghan annals.

## CHAPTER XXI.—KILDARE.



OTHER inland counties have done so well that Kildare's record is somewhat disappointing. There are very few names of really great note among the Kildare men recorded in the usual sources of information. Many of them are interesting figures, but famous people do not abound. The greatest personage is that of St. Laurence O'Toole, who was probably born in the county, and whose life and death are very familiar to the Irish people. Several other notable ecclesiastics have come from Kildare. One of these was Cardinal Cullen, who is remembered as an administrator rather than in any other capacity. The Rev. Peter Walsh, on the other hand, was a great scholar and writer, and his books are part of the notable literature of the seventeenth century. Almost a contemporary of his was the Rev. Cornelius Nary, another Kildare man of great scholarship, one or two of whose works are very able. It is his translation of the New Testament which chiefly gives him his rank as a scholar, his writings on Catholic and Irish matters being excellent, but of less importance. The Rev. Dr. John Miley, of the earlier part of the last century, is known as O'Connell's friend and spiritual adviser, and as a pious and worthy priest, and the name of the Rev. Charles Aylmer, the eminent Jesuit, must also be added. The only eminent Protestant divine to be named

here is Arthur Price, Archbishop of Cashel in the middle of the eighth century.

As the place of original extraction, if not of birth, of some celebrated men, Kildare is in a peculiar position. Wolfe Tone's family was closely associated with the county, and it is entitled to some of the credit for that fact. It is also generally believed that another famous man of action—General James Wolfe, the captor of Quebec—had family connections with Kildare, but it is impossible to trace his pedigree very clearly, and the matter must remain a conjecture. Certain it is that the name is a common one there, and there is a decided tradition to the above effect. Other Wolfes from Kildare were the Rev. Charles Wolfe, author of "*The Burial of Sir John Moore*," and Arthur Wolfe, Lord Kilwarden. The first-named wrote nothing else as good as the poem specified, but he is not altogether a one-poem poet, as a recent selection from his writings by Mr. Litton Falkiner shows. One or two of his lyrics are admirable, but "*The Burial of Sir John Moore*" remains his finest performance. Lord Kilwarden was an amiable and able judge, and his murder was a terrible calamity of the Emmet insurrection, the more to be deplored as it had much to do with the ruin of the national cause. Another family intimately associated with Kildare was that of the Temples, whose most illustrious member was the statesman, Lord Palmerston; Sir John Temple, the author of a well-known "*History of the Irish Rebellion of 1641*," and Sir William Temple, the statesman and writer under whom Swift worked, were of this branch, and the title of Lord Palmerston was taken from the village of that name. The later members of the family, however, had a merely territorial connection with the county. The ducal clan of Leinster was, of course,

also closely associated with it, and in this way Lord Edward Fitzgerald may be fairly claimed as a Kildare man, though he was not born there. There were other notable Fitzgeralds also of his family, but his name appeals most to Irish people. The great Desmonds were more or less connected with Kildare, but it is difficult to say precisely in what degree. Lady Elizabeth Fitzgerald, "the fair Geraldine," the theme of many poems, must not be forgotten in this association.

There were other Kildare families of some reputation—notably that of the Wogans. The Chevalier (Sir Charles) Wogan, who effected the escape of the Princess Sobieski, is the most important. His dashing career and his famous exploit have been, I think, already made the subject of a romance. Certainly such a career would readily suggest itself to the novelist. Captain Edward Wogan, the Royalist soldier of a few decades earlier, was another distinguished member of the family. Other soldiers were Captain Hugh Ware, a gallant Franco-Irishman; Andrew Kennedy, also in foreign service, and Maurice B. St. Leger Keating, a writer of some merit as well as a soldier. Sir William F. P. Napier should, perhaps, be credited to County Kildare, as he was born just within its borders. His great "*History of the Peninsular War*" will preserve his name in literature. As lawyers, John Keating and Robert Rochford were esteemed, and in politics the names of Lord Cloncurry, William Burgh, and Welbore Ellis, the first Baron Mendip, are the most prominent. Lord Cloncurry, like Lord Charlemont, deserves to be warmly remembered for his patriotic efforts on behalf of Irish Nationality. Lord Mendip held important Government positions, but did not make any special impression on his contemporaries. Another political figure

of some note was Dr. Florence Hensey, who flourished in the middle of the eighteenth century, and who was supposed to be a spy in the French service. He was an able and courageous spirit.

When one comes to literature, one gets upon more familiar ground. Yet Kildare has not done much in that particular direction. Peter Walsh, Cornelius Nary, Charles Wolfe, and one or two other writers have been named. Worthy of notice also are John Wynn Baker, an agriculturist of some authority; Marcus Rainsford, a poet and miscellaneous author of merit; Richard Shackleton, the teacher of Edmund Burke, and his more famous daughter, Mary Leadbeater, author of "*The Annals of Ballitore*," etc., and her relative, Mrs. Lydia Jane Fisher, who wrote some clever minor verse and other things. Thomas Keightley, the historical writer and folklorist, was probably a native of Kildare, and Thomas Colley Grattan, a once extremely popular novelist and traveller, was certainly one. Richard Griffith, a minor dramatic writer and versifier, may also be named here, chiefly as the father of Sir Richard John Griffith, F.R.S., the geologist, whose name is famous in "*Griffith's Valuation*," and who was born in Dublin. A very graceful poetess, Teresa C. Boylan, used to write largely for the Irish papers some years ago, and since her departure for America her muse has been apparently silent, which is a pity. A Kildare man, who was hardly a poet, but a couplet by whom has made his name famous, was George Barrington (otherwise Waldron, his real name.) He began his public career by pocket-picking in England, and after some particularly daring thefts was transported to Australia. There he became an exemplary personage, and obtained an excellent official position. In a prologue



which he wrote in the *Antipodes* for a certain play occur these immortal lines :—

“True patriots we, for be it understood,  
We left our country for our country’s good.”

Barrington (or Waldron) wrote several works of some value, and died highly respected. John Sheehan was another Kildare writer of considerable popularity. His work in the *Dublin Comet*, an anti-tithe journal, prepared him for his London journalistic career. He wrote largely and amusingly for the London press for years, generally over the name of “The Irish Whiskey-Drinker” and “The Knight of Inishowen.” His work has never been collected, and is lying scattered through various long-since-defunct periodicals. It is to be feared that very little of it has a permanent value. Thackeray used him as the model of Captain Shandon in “Pendennis.” He was one of the Maginn and Kenealy school of writers, uproariously noisy, with considerable gifts (though not approaching those of Maginn—that real genius), but too fond of temporary, personal, and ephemeral subjects for their writings to stand a chance of permanent life.

With Richard C. Wellesley, the first Earl of Mornington, who was born in the county ; Christopher B. Lane, the Brazilian engineer ; Richard More O’Ferrall, a successful politician and Colonial administrator ; Sir Joshua Peter Bell, the Australian statesman ; James Gwinn, a distinguished architect ; Sir W. H. Rattigan, the Indian judge ; John Wolfe, the engraver, and Shiel Barry, the actor, this record of Kildare’s services to the various branches of human activity closes.

## CHAPTER XXII.—ROSCOMMON.



ROSCOMMON touches two districts notable for eminent men, and it has produced not a few celebrities on its own account. But Galway and Westmeath make a much better show for some inexplicable reason. Some of the names to be mentioned in connection with Roscommon are very important, but generally the number is few. Perhaps it will be well to first treat of literature and learning. The O'Connor family naturally occupies a prominent place here. Charles O'Connor, the great scholar, who did so much for Irish learning in the early eighteenth century, was really born in Sligo, but Roscommon has the chief claim to him. His grandson, the Rev. Charles O'Connor, did equally important work, and though his interests may have been wider, it is really his Irish antiquarian studies that count for most of his high reputation. Matthew O'Connor, another member of the family, in his "Military History of the Irish Nation," was the first to attempt some account of what the Irish have achieved in military affairs abroad, and that work and other services rendered by him to Irish history are valuable. Irish literature was also well served by the Rev. James Wills, if only by his "Lives of Illustrious Irishmen," but Wills also wrote creditable verse, and, moreover, was the father of the eminent dramatist W. G. Wills, and of Freeman C. Wills, who is also becoming a successful playwright. Sir William Wilde was the most eminent of the Roscommon antiquaries. His various

scientific and archæological papers, his "Lough Corrib," "Boyne and Blackwater," and other writings, attest his knowledge and skill, and he was one of the foremost oculists of his time. His books cover a wide field from his records of travel to his disquisition on the state of Swift's mind, and all show thorough mastery of his subjects. His unfortunate sons, Oscar and William, were men of the very highest gifts, and one of them must inevitably rank with the greatest writers of the nineteenth century.

Other writers include William Digby Seymour, author of various poems and of several works of merit (who has been generally claimed as a Galway man), the Rev. William A. O'Connor (born in Cork, but of Roscommon family), Roderick Flanagan, the Australian historian and publicist, and Dr. Robert J. Reilly, a charming poet, who died prematurely a few years ago. The O'Connor Don, by his work on "The O'Conors of Connaught," might be included among the authors, but he is known to fame generally as a man of great political ability and position, who might adorn any office in the State. Sir Nicholas O'Connor, the Ambassador, naturally finds a place here. The Rev. Dr. John Keogh, the son of a Limerick man, is the author of a couple of important works—one on Irish botany, and another on Irish antiquities. Both are of considerable value to the student—the first-named giving the Irish as well as the Latin names of Irish plants. The disreputable William N. Keogh, the judge, it may be mentioned here, was also of Roscommon family. Two politicians of notably opposite tendencies were the late Matthew Harris and Colonel King-Harman. Sir David Barry, an eminent physician and medical writer of nearly a century ago, was also a Roscommon man. A very well-known writer was Arthur Murphy, the dramatist and miscellaneous author.

Some of his plays are dead beyond recovery, but a few of his comedies and farces are most excellent, and would surely bear reproduction. His "Life of Garrick" and other works are not now of much value, but he was one of the leading literary men of his time, an intimate friend of Dr. Johnson and his set, and much esteemed. His brother, James Murphy French, as he called himself, was not without literary ability.

Mention of Dr. Johnson reminds one of Oliver Goldsmith, who has been claimed as a Roscommon man by some competent critics. Dr. Michael F. Cox, of Dublin, himself a distinguished Roscommon man, has written a most informing paper on this subject, in which the evidence for the claim may be found fairly set out and explained, but the Very Rev. J. J. Kelly, D.D., of Athlone, author of graceful poems and other works, and also a Roscommon man, had already dealt with the subject fully, and has just published a most convincing work on the controversy. A most distinguished Roscommon man was Matthew Young, F.R.S., the Protestant Bishop of Clonfert, whose versatility was quite remarkable. He was an excellent musician and a notable scientist, and one of those men who would achieve fame in any one subject upon which he chose to concentrate his whole attention. Another distinguished bishop and writer of the same Church was St. George Ashe, who was also the teacher of Swift and Congreve, and other famous men in Trinity College, Dublin. The late Right Rev. William Pakenham Walsh, was an accomplished Protestant writer.

The Rev. George Kelly is another most interesting Roscommon man. "Parson" Kelly's career has been utilised in a well-known novel, and certainly his experiences as a Jacobite were romantic enough. He was a clever writer, a

remarkable orator, and a fearless organiser, and it would be well worth the while of some Roscommon man to give us the full history of this striking personality. The Roscommon writers of later days are also more than interesting. Mrs. B. M. Croker is a brilliant novelist, whose books are read wherever the English language is known ; Miss O'Connor Eccles' " Rejuvenation of Miss Semaphore " and her more recent " Aliens of the West," are extremely clever performances ; Miss L. M. Little has written excellent poems ; and Mrs. Grace Rhys, in her " Wooing of Sheila," make up an almost unique quartet in the sense that few counties can show such a brilliant group of women novelists at the present time. The Rev. George T. Stokes, the late distinguished scholar, and that most effective of journalists, T. P. O'Connor, were born in Athlone, and apparently in the Roscommon portion of it. T.P.'s. fame is world-wide, and deservedly so. No living writer wields a more graphic pen. James O'Kelly, the war correspondent, must also be named as a noted Roscommon man. Lastly, W. P. French, the humorist, deserves notice. It is difficult sometimes to draw the line between a pleasant caricature and a slight libel, but I think W. P. French's songs and amusing sketches are generally free from offence. He has considerable humour, and has shown it generously in numberless sketches and verses.

It would be impossible, of course, to leave the literary side of this article without a reference to the important fact that it is one of the chief boasts of Roscommon that Forfeasa O'Mulconry—one of the Four Masters—was a native of the county. The fact is undoubtedly a feather in its cap. Among the eminent ecclesiastics from Roscommon were Archbishop Arthur Dillon, the French prelate, and Donat O'Haingli, the eleventh century bishop ; these were,

perhaps, the most notable. So much for the arts of peace. War has had its distinguished representatives, too. General Arthur Dillon and General James O'Moran, of the French service ; Calvach O'Connor, of the early seventeenth century ; General Sir Arthur French, General Luke O'Connor, V.C. ; and General J. H. Dunne, within our own time, do not make a bad record. Another V.C. man who may be mentioned is Colonel Henry George Browne, who gained the coveted distinction at the Siege of Lucknow. There were several distinguished members of the King family, Earls of Kingston, and, of course, no treatment of the theme would be complete without reference to the three beautiful Miss Gunnings, who all married into the highest peerage. I have also to mention Surgeon Thomas H. Parke, the African explorer, to whom a statue has been erected in Dublin ; the Rev. Richard P. Blakeney, a distinguished Protestant divine ; Sir John Conroy, a prominent official of the early Victorian reign ; George Alexander Douglas, who holds a high official position in Jamaica ; John Hubert Plunkett, the late eminent Australian statesman ; Thomas Henry Wyatt, a notable architect of the last century ; James Egan, an admirable mezzotint engraver ; the Rev. John Walker, a popular divine and author, founder of the Walkerites ; and, lastly, William Dever, the well-known baritone vocalist. Truly, a very honourable record.

## CHAPTER XXIII.—FERMANAGH.



**A**MONG the Northern counties Fermanagh holds a rather modest place. It has produced some excellent poets and some great soldiers, but there are not many names to mention. Although mentioned already, the Rev. John Graham must be noticed here again. An excellent authority gives him to Fermanagh, and as it is possible that he was born in the county, it is only right that the author of "Derriana" and other works of considerable interest should find a place here. I am unable to say precisely whether Graham was a native or not. John Macken, the poet, who wrote some popular pieces under the pseudonym of "Ismael Fitzadam," in the early nineteenth century, and who was highly thought of by some good critics, was a Fermanagh man, as was also Thomas Elliot, the Scotch poet—or rather the poet of that name who is popular in Scotland, and some of whose songs are included in various Scottish anthologies. Hugh Farrar M'Dermott and Daniel Connolly, two Irish-American poets of merit, also belonged to the same county. In the older days Fermanagh gave birth to Teige O'Higgins, to Maelbrigte O'Hussey and Eochaidh O'Hussey, bards of the Maguires. The Maguires themselves were, of course, a great Fermanagh family, and Cathal Maguire, the fifteenth century historian; Hugh Maguire, Lord of Fermanagh, who died in 1600, and

Connor Maguire, the second Lord Enniskillen, who suffered death for his country, are the most famous of them. Quite a large group of soldiers hail from the county. General Sir George Bell, Sir Arthur Brooke, and General W. H. Noble, F.R.S., are the most renowned of those who served in the English army, and the last-named had a more than military reputation, for he was, it is said, the true inventor of cordite, the well-known explosive. General William Irvine, the American patriot and soldier, was an honour to the county, and Hume Caldwell and his brother, Sir Alexander Caldwell, were gallant Austrian officers, who worthily upheld the martial reputation of Ireland.

Of the writers of Fermanagh, the best known are Sir James Caldwell, a political author of considerable ability in the eighteenth century ; Henry Nugent Bell, the genealogist, and Shan. F. Bullock, the brilliant novelist of to-day. No Irish writer of fiction of our time has written more delightful books than Mr. Bullock, and readers of "The Barrys," "The Squireen," among his longer novels, and "By Thrasna River" and "Ring o' Rushes" among his volumes of short stories, will not regret having made their acquaintance. Two other living Fermanagh men of some note may be also named—the Rev. Andrew R. Faussett and the Rev. James Guinness Rogers, Protestant divines, and authors of repute. But far more renowned are some of the men of the past—Terence Bellew M'Manus, the '48 man ; Sir Victor Brooke, the naturalist ; Sir Alexander Armstrong, M.D., F.R.S., naval surgeon and Arctic navigator ; William Magee, a famous Archbishop of Dublin and father of the still better known Archbishop of York ; Lord Plunket, the great lawyer and orator ; and James W. Quinton, the Indian official, whose assassination



some years ago caused a sensation. That St. Erard was from Fermanagh is very probable, and there is very good reason for believing that Miles Magrath, the apostate, was also from the same county. The Rev. Stephen Keenan, the controversialist; Hugh J. Hastings, the American journalist, and Mrs. Honner, the actress, were other notabilities of Fermanagh.

## CHAPTER XXIV—LOUTH.



THE greatest personage in the history of County Louth is that of St. Bridget, who as one of the Saintly Triad — Patrick, Columkille, and Bridget—occupies so prominent a place in Irish hagiology. The life of this great saint has been often written, but never more quaintly than by the native chronicler, whose versions have been translated by Whitley Stokes and other fine scholars. She was evidently a very remarkable woman—one of the finest types of woman in history—and is the chief glory of Louth. The other celebrities of Louth are of the usual kind—poets, soldiers, statesmen, officials, etc. The poets are, perhaps, as interesting as any. One or two of them are very remarkable. Thomas D'Arcy M'Gee is the best known, though not, I think, the most important. It is a great pity that there is no handy edition of M'Gee's poems. The huge volume into which Mrs. Sadleir crammed all his verse is inaccessible to the ordinary reader, and even if it were accessible would not be a desirable volume—few readers caring to possess several hundred poems, many bad, for the sake of fifty good ones. I consider M'Gee to be one of the best of the Irish poets. His career has prejudiced some of his countrymen against him, but literature takes no note of personalities, and it cannot be gainsaid that, despite occasional roughness and harshness, his best poems are very fine. Few Irish poets have more strength, more power. Yet, he could write tenderly too. "The Celts," "Salutation to the

Celts," "Cathal's Farewell to the Rye," and many others which will occur to the readers of M'Gee are representative of his more virile muse, and "My Irish Wife," and similar pieces will speak for the other mood. M'Gee was not only a poet; some of his other books are excellent, and regrettably out of print—such as the "History of the Irish Settlers in America," the "History of the Protestant Reformation in Ireland," and so on. As an orator he was among the best of his time. His great services to the British Empire in Canada are less enthusiastically regarded by his countrymen. He may have had a perfect right to utilise his undoubted abilities in the cause of Imperial federation, but he seems to have thought it necessary to vehemently denounce all those of his countrymen who thought differently, and who resented his tergiversation, with the result that after constant attacks upon the American Fenians he was assassinated by one of them. It was a pitiable ending to a remarkable career. Had M'Gee used his genius in behalf of the Irish cause, there is no doubt he could have greatly advanced it. He chose, with the customary zeal of the apostate, to go further than the most English of Englishmen and Canadians, and the result was a terrible tragedy, which did grievous harm to Ireland everywhere.

In some respects M'Gee was the greatest literary figure from Louth. But I think as a poet he has been excelled by Thomas Boyd, a young and retiring poet of our own day, some of whose poems reach a higher level than was possible for M'Gee. Boyd's poems have been at last collected; they were scattered through the National journals of the last few years, and it is excellent news that they have just been brought together into a volume. The highest critics regard some of his poems as among the best

of our time—a very poetical age, be it noted. Another Louth poet (though born elsewhere) is the late Mrs. Frances Wynne, a delightful writer, the author of only one small volume, but a volume of great charm. Her early death was a sad loss to Irish literature. The late Rev. William D. Kelly, better known, no doubt, to the Irish in America, was also a clever poet from this county. In the eighteenth century there is only Henry Jones, the poet and dramatist, originally a bricklayer, whose “*Earl of Essex*,” a tragedy, has great merits, Matthew Moore Graham, a good Irish scholar and poet, and George Pepper, an Irish-American dramatist, may also be mentioned.

There are other excellent writers, apart from the poets. Percy Fitzgerald, a voluminous biographer, and miscellaneous author, is the most widely known. His books must number at least a hundred. They include novels, biographies, sketches, antiquarian and historical studies, and some of them are useful contributions to literature. His “*Life of Sterne*” is perhaps the best; but it is difficult to choose from so vast a number of works, some of which contain the results of original research. The late Dr. John Doran was of a County Louth family and his books are often admirable. They are all highly interesting, particularly “*Their Majesties’ Servants*,” which is one of the best books ever written on the history of the stage. His other antiquarian books are far more readable—while equally learned—than most works of the kind generally are. Another Louth writer was John Cashel Hoey, an able journalist, little of whose work has been collected. He was one of the best publicists of his day. The Rev. Canon Blackley was also a writer of ability. His translation of the Swedish epic of Tegner is his most

popular work. He was an excellent scholar, particularly in German matters, and it deserves to be noted that he was the originator of the first scheme of national insurance. Professor John Eliot Cairnes, one of the leading political economists of the nineteenth century, was also from the County Louth. His works are of high importance in the history of economics, and he ranks among the most distinguished men of his county. The Rev. Dr. Nicholas Callan also demands notice as a lecturer and populariser of science of considerable repute. He was one of the few Irish priests who have contributed to scientific literature. A Protestant divine of some celebrity was the Rev. William Anthony Holmes. Thomas Wright, author of the valuable work, "*Louthiana*," was doubtless also of Louth origin. Among living writers of Louth, and, indeed, among living Irish authors, William Boyle holds a high place. Few fiction-writers have such a complete knowledge of the Irish people--no living writer has more humour. His "*Kish of Brogues*" and many of his scattered stories and poems are most admirable for their intimate knowledge of Irish ways, their mingled humour and pathos. Mr. Boyle has turned his attention to play-writing, in which he promises to be as successful as in fiction. He is not likely to caricature the national types. The Rev. Denis Taaffe, author of a vigorous "*History of Ireland*," who died early in the last century, cannot be omitted from a list of Louth celebrities. Several eminent dignitaries of the Catholic Church may be referred to. Ralph Kelly, Archbishop of Cashel in the fourteenth century, and George Dowdall, an illustrious Archbishop of Armagh are the two most notable of these ecclesiastics. To them may be added the Most Rev. James Chadwick, an English Catholic prelate, the Most Rev. Peter F. Crinnon, a Canadian Archbishop of

note ; the Rev. P. Fleming, the Rev. John Bathe, the Jesuit, and the Rev. Philip Norris, Dean of St. Patrick's in the fifteenth century.

A couple of notable statesmen also call for mention. I think the Foster family may be safely assigned to Louth. John Foster, Baron Oriel, the last Speaker of the Irish Parliament, and the late Christopher Fortescue, Lord Carlingford, were two men most distinguished in the public affairs of their times. Myles William O'Reilly was a prominent politician a few decades ago. Several eminent soldiers also came from County Louth. Sir Garrett Moore, the first Viscount Drogheda, and Sir Charles Moore, the second Viscount, were, perhaps, the most famous. They flourished in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and figure largely in the military annals of that period. Colonel Nathaniel Hooke, the Jacobite, is best remembered as an historical writer of great ability, but he may be mentioned here. In later days General Sir Anthony C. Sterling, son of Edward Sterling, the journalist, was born in County Louth ; but that may be regarded as an accident. However, he was a very distinguished military officer in Crimean days. General Arthur Wynne, of the present day, is also a soldier of some reputation. Among seamen, Admiral Sir Francis Leopold M'Clintock is the most eminent. As an Arctic navigator, and as the discoverer of Franklin's remains, he is well known. He has added much to our knowledge of the Arctic regions, and forms one of a group of notable Irish explorers of the extreme North. Captain John Barrett, an intrepid sailor of a century ago, has also a high place in naval history. Admiral Sir John Moore, one of the Drogheda family, was, too, a notable seaman of the eighteenth century. The late Admiral W. F. Ruxton may also be named. Maelmuire O'Gorman, the

martyrologist, and Echlin O'Kane, the harper, are two famous Louth men in the history of old Irish literature and music. Modern musicians of Louth origin are not many. John Horan, the veteran organist, is, I think, the most notable, and the death of his gifted son, the late G. F. Horan, was a loss to music generally. Bishop John Jebb, an eminent divine of the last century; his relative, John Richard Jebb, the judge; Baron Foster, another eminent judge: John Hooke, an able lawyer of the seventeenth century; and Nathaniel Hooke, son of the latter, and friend of the poet, Pope, cannot be left out of a list of Louth men. Three engineers of great reputation, the late Sir John M'Neill, Arthur Ormsby, and the present Robert Daly Ormsby, the West India engineer, must also be included. Sir John G. Barton is another eminent member of the same profession from Louth. Dowell O'Reilly, an able Colonial lawyer and administrator, naturally finds a place here.

In art, Luke Sullivan and Thomas Nugent, the engravers, and Henry O'Neill, the antiquarian artist, are of some importance. Miss Elizabeth O'Neill, the great actress, afterwards Lady Becher, a native of the county, retired from the stage after a comparatively short experience of it, but was at once acclaimed as one of the best actresses who ever adorned it. She was, moreover, a very estimable lady, whose character stood very high when connection with the profession of acting was considered far more degrading than it is to-day. The last names on the Louth list are those of Edward Townley Hardman, the geologist, whose name is commemorated in a range of Australian mountains, and Vere Foster, the well-known educationalist.

## CHAPTER XXV.—WEXFORD.



THE chief feature about the worthies of Wexford is that many of them—a goodly proportion—were rebels. There is quite a gallery of names connected with the '98 insurrection. The most desperate fighting took place in the county, and a large number of potential military leaders sprang up to lead the people. Some of them had distinct military genius—all were admittedly brave, and the most famous men are those who died in battle or were hanged afterwards. Three of these men—Father John Murphy, Father Michael Murphy, and Father Philip Roche—followed a calling which is opposed to war, deprecates enmity amongst peoples, and strives for universal peace. Yet such were the intolerable grievances of the people, so outrageous were the excesses of the English garrison, that even the priests were compelled to lead the peasants into battle. All honour to them for it! They took the risks and suffered for their patriotism. No one at this time of day will find aught but praise and sympathy for them. The example of Fathers Murphy and Roche vindicates the priests of Ireland from the charge that they were indifferent to the sufferings of the people. Some of the other leaders of the rebellion were Protestant country gentlemen, who threw in their lot with the insurgents, and met the same fate. Notwithstanding its horror, what happened in Wexford—the magnificent stand made by the people—is one of the brightest and proudest incidents in the



history of the Irish struggle. Bagenal Harvey, John Henry Colclough, Esmonde Ryan, Mathew Keugh, Edward Fitzgerald, and Cornelius Grogan, martyrs in the Irish cause, together with the priests named—all Wexford men—deserve to be ever remembered with affection by the Irish people. The Catholic historians of the insurrection—Edward Hay and the Rev. P. F. Kavanagh—also belong to this famous county. Miles Byrne, who took a prominent part in the rebellion, afterwards rose to high and distinguished position in the French army, and his “Memoirs”—a most valuable book—is a worthy record of a remarkable Wexford man.

Military men, in the sense of famous soldiers in the British or other armies, are conspicuous by their absence. The only soldier I can discover is Lieutenant-Colonel Bryan O'Toole, who is only conjecturally a Wexfordman, it being possible that he belonged to Wicklow. On the other hand, Wexford has produced some very notable seamen. The famous Commodore John Barry, of the American Navy, is a national hero in the States. Sir Robert J. Le Mesurier M'Clure, the great Arctic navigator and discoverer of the North-West Passage, was also a Wexfordman. His great services were rendered not as a conqueror and fighter, but in the interests of science, and his work has largely increased our knowledge of the mysterious north. Captain Downie was another capable seaman, and Admiral Richard Lucas, V.C., still living, was the first recipient of the much-sought-after tribute to valour. I have mentioned M'Clure's services to science, and this suggests Wexford scientists, of whom there were a couple of notable ones. The Rev. Bartholomew Lloyd was perhaps the best known—he was a great savant; but his son, Humphrey Lloyd, F.R.S., was even more famous. Bartholomew Lloyd's

chief fame is in connection with his Provostship of Trinity College, Dublin, of which he proved a most remarkable head. His administration was the most capable since the founding of the College. Charles B. Vignoles, F.R.S., the great engineer, was from Wexford, as was also the late John P. Roe, another eminent engineer and inventor, and so is the eminent living authority on veterinary surgery, Joshua A. Nunn. Dr. George J. Guthrie, the late famous London surgeon, was also of Wexford family. Dr. George Hamilton Roe, the physician, must not be forgotten either, and Dr. Arthur Leared, a noted traveller, physician, and inventor, who claimed to have invented the double stethoscope, was likewise a native of the county.

Of officials, lawyers, and politicians, there have been and are a few of some repute. Captain D. F. Ryan, who was shot by Lord Edward Fitzgerald, and Colonel Tottenham ("Tottenham in his boots") are public characters whose notoriety probably entitles them to notice here ; and James R. Gowan, the distinguished Canadian judge, is the only lawyer of real eminence who can be placed to Wexford's credit. Ogle Robert Gowan, a famous Orange journalist of Canada, may also be mentioned. John Redmond, M.P., the able leader of the Irish party ; his brother, William Redmond, and Sir Thomas Grattan Esmonde are the foremost living politicians produced by the county. Quite a number of miscellaneous writers owe their origin to Wexford. The Rev. James Godkin, political and theological author ; the Rev. Henry Giles, a brilliant lecturer and essayist ; Patrick Kennedy, the folk-lorist, whose "*Legendary Fictions of the Irish Celts*," "*Fireside Stories of Ireland*," and many other works are amongst the best of their class ; the Rev. George Gregory, a capable author ; and Professor T. E. Cliffe Leslie, one of the most

renowned of political economists, are a few of the names that might be mentioned. A most interesting writer was Michael J. Whitty, who, after contributing to several Irish periodicals under various disguises, published "*Tales of Irish Life*," which were illustrated by George Cruikshank, edited and partly wrote "*Captain Rock in London*," and other things, and finally edited and owned the "*Liverpool Daily Post*," and started the first penny newspaper. His son, Edward Michael Whitty, was even more brilliant as a journalist, and his "*Friends in Bohemia*" is a very remarkable novel. Edward Whitty's early death ended one of the most promising careers of the time. Jacob Poole was a local antiquary, whose collection and preservation of the now extinct dialect of Forth and Bargy was a valuable service to philology. Sir John Jervis White Jervis wrote one or two interesting books, and the present James Fitzgerald Molloy is well known as a novelist and biographer—his volumes on Edmund Kean, Peg Woffington, and Lady Blessington having achieved considerable popularity. To these writers must be added Bishop Nicholas French, author of "*The Bleeding Iphigenia*," and other historical works of importance, and Bishop James Doyle, the famous "*J. K. L.*" (James, Kildare and Leighlin), a great figure in his day, whose public work is remembered, though his vigorous writings have naturally, being temporary in their character, lost their original interest, and are now rarely read. The Most Rev. James Ricards, Catholic Bishop of Port Elizabeth, was also a Wexfordman. James Thomas O'Brien, the Protestant Bishop of Ossory, was a voluminous writer, and an able controversialist, but his works have also gone the way of most similar things.

Poetry has found in Wexford some most zealous

disciples. Thomas Furlong has been sadly neglected. His books are out of print, and no attempt has been made to select and publish his best work. Yet few Irish poets better deserve that compliment. Most of his work has lost its first freshness, and it is to be feared that his so-called Irish translations are tame, but a most valuable little volume of verse could be made from his literary remains. Seeing that he is the most famous of the Wexford poets, an effort of this kind might have been expected to suggest itself long ago to his own county. But it is one of the things to be done by someone with the necessary taste and knowledge. After Furlong, probably Lady Wilde ranks highest among Wexford poets. She wrote some excellent prose works, notably her "*Ancient Legends of Ireland*," a couple of novels and some volumes of sketches, but her name in Ireland is associated with poetry. Many of her poems will not stand the test of time—already they begin to look unreal and superficial, but a few of them are full of emotion and power, and an almost masculine energy and force is to be found here and there. Miss Emily H. Hickey, too, has written some true poetry. Few writers of her refinement and taste are to be met with at the present time. Another Wexford poet of great popularity was George Ogle, an Irish politician of the eighteenth century, whose few songs—especially "*Molly Astore*" and "*Shepherds, I have lost my love*"—are universally appreciated. William P. Lett, the Canadian poet, was also from this county, which is also answerable for the late John C. Fitzachary, none of whose work is likely to survive.

Of artists, there have been one or two notable examples. Francis Danby, A.R.A., was in his day highly esteemed. He was regarded as one of the most poetical of landscapists,

and there is no doubt that some of his ideas are poetical enough. But it is doubtful whether his reputation will be of a permanent character. His pictures are already showing signs of deterioration, and it is only a question of time for them to vanish from the canvas. It seems clear that they were, in any case, greatly overrated. His two sons, Thomas Danby and James Francis Danby, painted pictures which are more likely to last. They were clever artists, but not born in Wexford. Charles Spooner, the mezzotint engraver, will have a more enduring fame than Danby. His best engravings are admirable, and every year sees them rise in value.

The Rev. G. W. Carr, the temperance reformer, and James Annesley, the claimant of the Annesley peerage, whose trial was one of the most interesting of the eighteenth century, were two Wexford men who call for some notice. Finally, St. Kevin may have been from Wexford. He was born on the borders of that county and Wicklow; and St. Moling was evidently a native of what is one of the most interesting of the eastern counties of Ireland.

## CHAPTER XXVI.—WATERFORD.



AMONG the southern counties Waterford has an excellent intellectual position. Its versatility is always marked. It is, apart from Cork, the most artistic, and in the drama it has done very well. To take the last first, Mrs. Jordan, the most delightful actress of her time, and probably the best exponent of such parts as Rosalind that ever lived, was a native of Waterford, and the accident of birth gave the county claim to Charles Kean. It is also believed that Mrs. Kean—Ellen Tree—an admirable actress, was also born there. Mrs. Pope (*nee* Campion), another notable actress, was certainly a native of the county, and Tyrone Power, the most famous of delineators of Irish character, hailed from Kilmacthomas. These are all distinguished names in dramatic annals, and Waterford has also some important names to show in art. John Hogan, the sculptor, is the most celebrated of these. His works speak for themselves. They are not to be compared with those of Foley, but they are always distinguished, and occasionally most impressive. One of Hogan's sons seems to have inherited something of his father's gift. Another excellent Waterford sculptor was John E. Carew, whose best-known work—the fine statue of Grattan in St. Stephen's Hall, Westminster—is without his name. He refused to put his name to it after the Prince Consort had insisted on the alteration of the position of one of the arms. Carew did

other good work, but this statue is probably his masterpiece. Robert West, the painter, the father of Francis Robert West, the famous Dublin art teacher and artist, was another of the Waterford artists. Contemporary with him were other clever painters, notably William Hincks, the miniaturist ; Richard Carver, and his son, Robert Carver, one of them a painter of altar pieces, and the other of stage scenery ; Thomas Roberts, the landscapist, and his better-known son, Thomas Sautelle Roberts, R.H.A. (who were descendants of John Roberts, a Waterford architect, and from whom, again, the present Lord Roberts derives his origin). Later still, appeared Edward Hayes and his son, Michael Angelo Hayes, the first an excellent landscape artist, and the latter a good painter at battle pieces. This is not a bad record for a single county.

In one profession Waterford men seem to have been specially successful—the profession of oratory. I am not unmindful of the other gifts of the men I am about to name, but as orators they hold a high place in Irish politics. Richard Lalor Sheil had a great reputation as a speaker, and his speeches may still be read with great pleasure, and, although he had a bad voice and an awkward manner, his orations seem to have electrified his hearers. Thomas Francis Meagher was an inspiring orator, perhaps one of the most eloquent men even Ireland has produced. He is well remembered, too, as a gallant soldier in America. All who heard the late lamented Edmund Leamy at his best know that he was a most finished and delightful speaker ; and it hardly seems necessary to mention the name of Thomas Sexton, whose best speeches are worthy to rank with the finest oratorical efforts of modern times. The future collector of Irish oratory must pay particular attention to some of Mr. Sexton's Parliamentary and platform

utterances. Political warfare has attracted other able Waterford men, the most eminent, perhaps, being Sir John Newport. In public affairs, legal and administrative, there are many notable names. Sir John Thompson, the late brilliant Canadian Premier, was of Waterford family, and Sir Thomas Wyse and Sir Justin Sheil earned a considerable reputation in diplomacy. Wyse was also known in his day as a prominent politician, and as the author of the "History of the Catholic Association." Sir Richard Musgrave, author of a "History of the Irish Rebellion of 1798," which, on account of its bias, is of little value, was another politician of note. In law, James Anthony Lawson, the well-known judge, and John Edward Walsh, the Master of the Rolls (who wrote the excellent little book called "Ireland Sixty Years Ago"), are the two names most prominent.

Soldiers are rather abundant, and some of them bear famous names. Viscount William Beresford of Peninsula renown; Lord Keane, another eminent British soldier; General Sir Moore Disney, General Sir J. R. Smith, and General Sir Abraham Roberts were the most distinguished. The last-named, as the father of Field-Marshal Lord Roberts, is, perhaps, best remembered, but Beresford and Keane are of much greater importance in English military annals. Sir William Palliser was an eminent authority on ordnance, and invented improvements in guns which were of great value. Lord Roberts fills a larger place in modern English military history than any other soldier except Wellington, but it is impossible to say what his real position is as a soldier. Certainly he has had plenty of experience of warfare, but the test which can be applied to Wellington cannot be applied to his career, and it remains for future historians to determine



what are his claims from the military point of view. General T. F. Meagher has been mentioned already. A great soldier was General Richard Wall, of the Spanish service. He was one of the innumerable Irishmen of military proclivities and genius who found fame on the Continent. Sir Antonio Vincent Walsh, the Jacobite, may be appropriately mentioned here.

Some of the other notabilities of Waterford overlap here—as Roger Boyle, the first Earl of Orrery, was a soldier as well as a writer. But he wrote a good deal of matter—especially plays—which counted for something in its day. John Boyle, Earl of Cork and Orrery, was also somewhat prolific as an author. His “Remarks” on Swift is the only work of his which is likely to survive. It is curious to note that in modern times a clever Flemish poet and an ingenious Provencal poet were both Irishmen, and both from Waterford. The Rev. Francis O’Hearn’s Flemish writings were the subject of a discussion at the Flemish Academy not so long ago, and William Charles Buonaparte Wyse was one of the elect amongst the Provencal poets praised by Mistral and other bards of sunny Southern France. Strangely enough, Waterford has done little enough for poetry in the English language, and I do not know of any very distinguished Gaelic poet from the county. Mary Elizabeth Blake (*nee* M’Grath), an admirable Irish poetess living in America, and John Walsh, a sweet singer of twenty or thirty years ago (and his promising son, Michael Paul Walsh, who died young), are the best of them. The late Michael Cavanagh may also be named. In the art of the novelist, Waterford has not done much better. Edmund Downey has written many ~~very~~ short stories, and at least one excellent novel: and Julia Crottie is a powerful story-teller. I think also

that Regina Maria Roche, the eighteenth-century author of books still popular (such as "The Children of the Abbey"), was from Waterford.

When we come to miscellaneous literature we have many names. John Wray Palliser, the traveller and explorer; the Rev. Dr. Robert Walsh, another popular writer of travels and other works; Dr. Edward Walsh, his brother, a physician, who served in the Walcheren Expedition, and published a valuable account of it (as well as a volume of poems of small interest); John Power, the bibliographer; William Greatrakes, who was conjectured—wildly conjectured, it may be said—to be the author of the "Letters of Junius"; Dr. Charles Smith, the historian of Cork, Waterford, and Kerry; Maurice Lenihan, the historian of Limerick; Malachy Hartry, the 17th century hagiographer; and Edward Sterling, the famous editor of the *Times*, the father of John Sterling, and known as the "Thunderer"—these are the most notable. Henry Villiers Stuart, the traveller, may be added. It is more than likely also that Richard Chenevix, F.R.S., the chemist, who wrote a couple of plays of some merit, was also a native of the county. Chenevix, however, was primarily a scientist of great ability, and his literary side is of less account.

To science Waterford has contributed Robert Boyle, the natural philosopher, one of the pioneers of modern science, whose name is allied with that of his contemporary, Sir Isaac Newton; and other scientists are Arthur A. Rambaut, F.R.S., the astronomer; Dr. Francis Barker, the physican; Valentine Greatrakes, the empiric; Professor William Allman, F.R.S.; and Theodore Cooke, the eminent living Indian engineer. Other Waterford men of note are Sir John Purcell, K.C.B., an ex-official of high rank in the

Inland Revenue ; Admiral Abraham Crawford, the only notable Waterford seaman ; Richard Power, the first Earl of Tyrone ; Louis Perrin, the judge ; William Crotty, the highwayman ; Robert Cooke, the eccentric Pythagorean, one of the originators of the modern craze for vegetarianism ; John Fleming, the late learned Gaelic scholar ; the Rev. Michael P. O'Hickey, a well-known living upholder of the Gaelic movement ; John O'Neill, the poor shoemaker poet and temperance reformer, whose writings gave Cruikshank the idea of his powerful illustrations of "The Bottle," and Surgeon-General Sir T. Gallwey, the well-known army doctor. In music, William Vincent Wallace, the famous musical composer, whose operas, "Maritana" and "Lurline," and many songs, retain a great and deserved popularity, and Charles Cleggett, the eighteenth century musical inventor and performer, are the two leading Waterford names.

Two Saints, St. Ita and St. Declan, may be safely credited to Waterford, and among its notable divines and theologians were the great Luke Wadding, one of the most remarkable of Irish scholars ; Peter Lombard, an illustrious Archbishop of Dublin ; the Rev. Peter Wadding, a distinguished Jesuit ; the Rev. Robert Cooke, O.M.I. ; two distinguished Jesuits, the Rev. Paul Sherlock and the Rev. Ignatius Brown, and the present Archbishop Cleary. Waterford may hold up her head among the counties. Her record is more than usually creditable.

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## CHAPTER XXVII.—ARMAGH.



PERHAPS the most noticeable feature of Armagh biography is the number of men who have succeeded as administrators and officials. Some of these officials are famous. The most eminent of all is Sir Robert Hart, whose power in China is said to be second only to that of the Emperor. For a very great number of years this remarkable man has lived in China, and he knows more about that extraordinary country than any other European. Any account of China by him would have a very special value. He has, however, written only one small volume, authoritative, but slight. His Chinese distinctions would fill a goodly place in this chapter, and from England he has, of course, received many honours. As Inspector-General of Customs and Ports, he necessarily controls much of the finance of China, and it is interesting to note that his Deputy-Inspector-General, Sir Robert Edward Bredon, is also an Armagh man, who is, perhaps, destined for still higher positions. It may be also mentioned that Sir Thomas Jackson, the late chief manager of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, is likewise from Armagh. Sir Archibald Acheson, second Earl of Gosford, and Sir Arthur Hunter Palmer, were two notable Colonial Governors, and a couple of Americans of fame must also be placed to Armagh's credit. These were James Logan, the well-known Governor of Pennsylvania, and Alexander J. Porter, the patriot.

Such names will appeal less to Irishmen, who are unacquainted with their great reputation, than to Americans. It is also a curious fact that William C. Wentworth, in some respects the greatest of Australian statesmen, was also connected with the county by parentage. Sir Frank Smith, the Canadian statesman, and Sir John Stanley, the Indian judge, also deserve to be noted here.

Strange to say, no soldier of any importance, except the late Sir William Olpherts, V.C., belongs to Armagh, and only one seaman of repute—Admiral Sir R. S. Robinson—deserves mention. Whatever laurels have been won by Armagh men have been gained in the arts of peace. Several musicians are among the worthies of Armagh. Of these Edward Bunting is the best known. There is no dispute as to the services which this excellent, but somewhat pretentious, personage has rendered to Irish music. At a time when few were interested in the subject he took up the task of collecting Irish airs, and at some sacrifice succeeded in bringing together a very large and valuable repertory of the old melodies. But he was so given to wild statements that his opinions have to be received with great caution. In order to enhance his services he was given to exaggerated claims for the airs he had collected, and even his vaunted versions are often corrupt enough. Still, when it is considered that Moore would probably never have written his “Melodies,” and, perhaps, would have become an English poet in every sense, but for the issue of Bunting’s first volume, too much praise cannot be given to this worthy antiquary. In later days Armagh has produced some good musicians in the Marks family—the late Thomas Osborne Marks and James Christopher Marks being deserving of all respect for their musical abilities—and Dr. Annie Patterson, the first lady to get

the degree of Doctor of Music, has also rendered Irish music some service.

As might be expected, some eminent divines and religious authors have come from Armagh. The Rev. Robert Black, the Rev. John Bankhead, the Rev. Samuel Barber, the Rev. Dr. Samuel Finley, and the Rev. Dr. Gilbert Tennent are instances in point. The last two were, perhaps, more widely known on account of their American labours. The Rev. George Hamilton was a distinguished biblical scholar, and the Rev. James Seaton Reid wrote the standard "History of the Presbyterian Church" and other works of considerable research. The eminent Bishop William Bisset was also probably from Armagh. Other clergymen of Armagh who have contributed to literature are the Rev. Orlando T. Dobbin and the Rev. W. J. Loftie. The first-named wrote some valuable antiquarian works, and was an admirable scholar; the latter is the author of many well-known topographical writings. His "History of London," "Memorials of the Savoy," "Windsor," "Westminster Abbey," "Inns of Court," and "Whitehall" are valuable contributions to English historical and topographical study. The late Rev. Moses Harvey, and the present Rev. E. J. Hardy, author of "How to Be Happy Though Married," cannot be overlooked in this chapter.

Other writers from Armagh are George Benn, the historian of Belfast, his book being one of the best of Irish local histories; Colonel Valentine Blacker, the military writer; Joseph B. Pentland, the traveller and explorer, and author of Murray's "Handbooks" to Italy; and William F. Monypenny, the well-known journalist, who acted as a correspondent for the *Times* in South Africa for some time, and has now been chosen to write the official

"Life of Lord Beaconsfield." Coulson Kernahan, who is of Armagh family, is a notable addition to the list. In science Armagh has also done fairly well. Hugh Hamilton, F.R.S., of an Armagh family, a distinguished divine and bishop, was also one of the most eminent mathematicians of the eighteenth century. His works have been collected in two volumes, and are still of considerable value. James Bell, F.R.S., a notable chemist of the present day, and one of the Government analysts, is the author of a very able book on "The Chemistry of Foods" and many scientific papers. He was Principal of the Government Laboratory at Somerset House for years, and also President of the Institute of Chemistry. James Breen, an astronomer of high reputation, died prematurely, before he had time to exhibit all his scientific ability. The late Maxwell Simpson, F.R.S., and Thomas Preston, F.R.S., also demand notice. The latter's premature death was a loss to science. In medicine Dr. William Lodge Kidd and the late Dr. Henry M'Cormac achieved much success and fame. The latter's son, Sir William M'Cormac, was one of the greatest surgeons of his day. In James Macartney, F.R.S., Armagh produced one of the most remarkable anatomists of modern times. Yet, until Professor Macalister produced his excellent monograph on Macartney he was practically unknown except to the select few. As an anatomical demonstrator he has had few equals at any time. The forgetfulness of his great services to the study of anatomy has not been without its value, for it was that which induced the publication of the monograph referred to, which has set Macartney in his proper niche of fame. Of lawyers, the eminent advocate, Serjeant Armstrong, was the most important.

The most illustrious Catholic name in the annals of Armagh is that of the saintly Bishop Malachy O'Morgair,

whose life has been learnedly told by the Very Rev. Canon O'Hanlon, both separately and in his monumental "Lives of the Irish Saints." No other Armagh ecclesiastic can be named of equal importance; indeed, with the exception of that of the late Rev. T.F. Knox, the Oratorian, I can recall no specially interesting Catholic name. Neal MacKenna, the poet and harper, and Patrick Linden may be taken as representative of Gaelic writers. The songs of the latter are still well remembered. Several figures remain who demand particular attention. First in importance comes Redmond O'Hanlon, the Irish Rapparee, whose career interested Sir Walter Scott sufficiently to induce him to seek for materials which he could utilise in an Irish historical novel. A good biography of this extraordinary man is badly needed. His career, judging by the allusions in various historical documents which the present writer has had occasion to consult, should make a most picturesque book. The famous outlaw, whose fortunes suggested to Carleton the rather poor book which he calls after him, but which does not deal with his career at all, was sufficiently formidable to make it worth the while of the English authorities to compass his death by treachery. Another man of an entirely different type was Samuel Turner, of '98 notoriety. This informer was rather superior to the ordinary run of those who follow his crooked calling, in that he never lacked courage. He was an utterly unscrupulous knave, but a knave of consummate ability and conspicuous bravery, and vile as was his treachery one cannot help thinking him a personage to be numbered with notable persons. His adventurous career has been fully told, and is interesting, if painful, reading. Another Armagh worthy was Martha Maria Magee, who founded the Magee College, Derry, and



James Stuart, the historian of Armagh, must also be named. His labours in the cause of local history deserve recognition.

I have, so far, left unnoticed two Armagh poets and one distinguished architect. The latter was James Murray, a clever artist, who flourished in the early part of the last century, and whose early death was a decided loss to art. The earliest of the poets to be named is William Blacker, the Orange rhymers. Blacker had some gift for poetry, and wrote one or two of the very few contributions of any value made to literature by the Orange section. Even their best effusions can only be given a very meagre place in literature. One or two of Blacker's Orange lyrics are well-known and popular, and can be read by even Nationalists with a certain amount of pleasure. The present George Russell, known as "A. E.," is the other poet to be considered. His work suggests strange contrasts with that of the previous writer. He has not given up to party what was meant for mankind (if one can use such a phrase in connection with a small poet like Blacker), and his poems are appreciated by all good critics wherever found. Slowly, but surely, his high poetical gift is becoming recognised. At his best his only rival is W. B. Yeats. Next to Yeats and O'Grady he has done more for the Irish literary revival than any other writer. It requires a certain cultivation of mind to grasp his mystical philosophy, and those who do not agree with it will, probably, readily admit the beauty of the verse in which it is conveyed. His "Deirdre" is a beautiful piece of dramatic work, and some of his prose essays, notably the superb "Nationality and Imperialism," rank among the best literature of our time.

## CHAPTER XXVIII.—MEATH.

**B**OTH Meath and Westmeath have a splendid record. In most branches of intellectual activity they have vindicated their claim to high results. Meath may be taken first. It is somewhat peculiar that an inland county like Meath should have produced so many famous sailors, but it is a fact that Meath has done better in this respect than any other county in Ireland. There are no Irish admirals of greater note than Matthew, Lord Aylmer, and Sir Peter Warren. Their exploits give them a very high place in naval history. Sir Peter Warren was a particularly distinguished man. Then Meath also produced Admiral Sir Francis Beaufort, Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, Admiral Sir Montague Stopford, and Admiral Robert F. Stopford. Moreover, Admiral Corbet Singleton was a Meath man, and more than probably Admiral Sir W. H. Dillon was also born in the same county, to which his family belonged. Soldiers from Meath have also been plentiful. Probably Ambrose O'Higgins, Marquis d'Osorio, was more of an administrator in Mexico than a soldier, but this seems to be the place to speak of him. He began life as a labourer in County Meath, and rose to be Viceroy of Mexico, while his son, Bernardo O'Higgins, was the liberator of Chili, and the finest monument in Santiago is erected in his honour. General Thomas Preston, Viscount Tara, was another famous soldier, whose career was chiefly passed in Ireland, and General Thomas

Plunket (Baron Plunket) also had a most distinguished record. Anthony Barnewell, who gave splendid service to Germany, was almost certainly a Meath man, and General Edward Bligh, the English soldier, was undoubtedly from this county. Some claim on Wellington might also be made, for though not born at Dangan Castle, his family had been settled there for some considerable time. General Matthew Everard was another Meath soldier of reputation, and the present General Sir T. De Courcy Hamilton, V.C., is of a family belonging to the same county. The late General Sir Richard C. Taylor, General Archibald Tisdall, and Colonel Richard K. Ridgeway, V.C., a distinguished living officer, also deserve notice. In earlier times, Hugh de Lacy, Sir John Netterville, the second Viscount, General Christopher Nugent, of the French service, and General Thomas Sheridan, the Jacobite, all earned high military distinction. William Nugent, the rebel, who died in 1625, also calls for honoured mention.

Such a list as the foregoing could hardly be surpassed anywhere. And in other ways Meath holds an excellent position. Several notable lawyers may be referred to. Sir Thomas Cusack, John Barnewell, the second Lord Trimleston, and Francis Blackburne, were Meath men who became Lord Chancellors; while Richard Netterville, of the sixteenth century, is another instance from the same county. The late Sir Francis Brady, Chief Justice of Newfoundland, was also from Meath. In administration and diplomacy, Viscount Gormanston and Sir Francis Plunkett may be named, while Sir Westby Perceval, the New Zealand official, is also of County Meath origin. The ecclesiastical history of Meath reveals some interesting names, none more famous than the martyred Oliver Plunkett, Archbishop of Armagh, whose persecution and trial

are disgraceful episodes in English history. Bishop Hugh Brady, the Rev. Thomas Betagh, the Jesuit, the Rev. Thomas M'Namara, the late Bishop Bernard O'Reilly, and the Rev. C. M. Baggs, an eminent scholar, are other Catholic divines from Meath who cannot be overlooked. The learned Franciscan of the seventeenth century, the Rev. Francis Porter, was also a notable Meath man.

Meath has given some admirable writers to Ireland. John Boyle O'Reilly's is the foremost name. It is extremely doubtful to me whether O'Reilly's fame as a poet will last. He has certainly written some excellent verse, but a perusal of his several volumes of poetry hardly bears out the anticipations formed from the two or three pieces which are well known. There is something cold and academic about most of his verse, and though he has given us a few pieces of exceptional merit they generally lack Irish fire. There is thought and there is excellent technical workmanship, but rather little of the emotion which one looks for in Irish national poets. His personality was delightful, and his name will survive in American journalism. His "Moondyne" is an admirable romance. Perhaps if a small volume of his best work could be selected, his reputation as a poet would be more solidly assured; as it is, it runs the risk of being submerged. Charles Graham Halpine was another Irish-American poet of ability. He wrote some genuine poetry, and his humorous verse is likely to live. At any rate, his inimitable "Irish Astronomy," beginning:

"O'Ryan was a man of might,"

deserves to have a long existence. Other Meath poets were the Rev. Robert Corbet Singleton, a hymn-writer of some

vogue, and William Smyth, who is, however, better known as the author of an excellent volume of "Lectures on Modern History." He was of Meath family.

In earlier literature there are Augustine MacGradaigh, the chronicler; Aengus O'Daly, the bitter satirist, whose "Tribes of Ireland" so incensed one of its victims that he slew the hired cynic; another Aengus O'Daly of nearly three centuries earlier; Rev. Francis O'Molloy, a Gaelic scholar and writer; the Rev. Paul O'Brien, author of a well-known Irish grammar and other works; Nicholas Plunket, the historical writer quoted by Thomas Carte and Dr. John Stearne, an eminent physician of the seventeenth century. Watty Cox, an unscrupulous but clever journalist, also attracts attention. It is difficult to say whether any of Cox's work has any permanent value. He was an able but savage political writer, his writings being generally anonymous. But his scurrility was feared both by the Government and by his enemies, and the former found it worth its while to buy off his hostility by a pension. He exposed some abuses, lashed some vices, and did occasional service to Ireland, but his career generally was not at all creditable. It may be mentioned here, perhaps, that Richard Pigott was also a Meath man, but his unsavoury career hardly calls for detailed comment. He may be classed with the Reynoldses, M'Nallys, and that ilk. Other writers of Meath are Sir John T. Dillon, the traveller, author of some interesting and serviceable works on Spain and other countries; James Bernard Clinch, a clever polemic of the early nineteenth century; Dr. Christopher Nugent, F.R.S., the friend of Dr. Johnson, and one of his circle, who wrote also some excellent books; and Lady Strangford, also a traveller and writer. Mrs. Alice Stopford Green, widow of the late J. R. Green, the historian.

and a very distinguished writer herself, is the chief living literary celebrity of the county. I understand that Tighe Hopkins, the popular writer of the present day, is of Meath family, and a novelist of real ability was the late Miss Elizabeth Casey, better known as E. Owens Blackburne, under which name most of her work was published.

Turlough O'Carolan more properly takes his place among the musicians, though he was a poet as well. It is rather difficult to estimate what he did for Irish music; he certainly composed a large number of the most popular Irish melodies, but no one seems to be able to give an approximate list of them. That he was a most accomplished composer and performer—one of the greatest Ireland has produced—is certain, but though the names of many of his admirable compositions are known, there must be many others for which he has not received credit. Somebody ought to give us a little book about O'Carolan; there is sufficient material for the purpose; and if his best compositions could be included in it, a real service would be rendered to Ireland and to music. There are constant allusions to him in eighteenth-century memoirs and poems, and if even these were collected it would be something. The only other musicians connected with Meath in any way are Brendan Rogers, the well-known Dublin musician; Charles Kelly, the Dublin basso; his brother, the late T. Grattan Kelly, and the popular living song composer, Mrs. Alicia Needham, who was born in the county, but is of County Cavan family. Her gift of melody has given her a most prominent position among the musicians of the day, and she is probably the most successful of women composers.

In art, Meath can show some excellent proofs of artistic temperament. Edward Smyth, the sculptor, one of the best Ireland has produced, is not generally known to his

countrymen. His works are generally on the tops of buildings, such as the Custom House, the Irish Parliament House, and the General Post Office, and thus it is difficult to judge him. Some good critics among his contemporaries, and especially Gandon, the great architect, thought very highly of his work, and spoke in warm praise of it. But he is practically unknown at the present day. He may be described as having the "making" of a great artist in him rather than as being a great artist. He was never sufficiently encouraged to fully develop his great talents. His son, John Smyth, was also a sculptor of some reputation, but his work is not startlingly good. Other Meath artists are Robert Barker, the inventor of the panorama, and Francis S. Walker, R.H.A., the painter etcher of to-day. The latter is one of the best-known of living Irish artists. Before leaving this subject of artists, it is right to state that Sir Edward Lovet Pearce, the architect who was responsible for some of the best portions of the Irish Parliament House, was also, in all probability, a Meath man. It is not quite clear, but his family was apparently from Meath. I have not yet mentioned the apostate John Butler, Lord Dunboyne, or Sir William Somerville, afterwards Lord Athlumney, a prominent politician. Neither have I included Sir Horace Plunkett, whose family is obviously from Meath; nor the eminent Indian administrator, Sir Denis Fitzpatrick, who must certainly be named, his father, an eminent physician, being a native of Trim. Finally, it may be mentioned that Feargus O'Connor, the Chartist, though of Cork family, was actually born in Co. Meath.

## CHAPTER XXIX.—WESTMEATH.



WESTMEATH is not quite on the level of Meath, though its worthies are often very illustrious. In military affairs it is quite as distinguished, but in some other matters it is on a lower plane. The number of great soldiers and administrators from these two counties is certainly striking. One would have thought off-hand that other activities might be more reasonably expected from these districts, but it is the unexpected that generally happens. If anyone were asked to name the warlike counties he would probably point to the remoter ones ; the wilder and mountainous regions of the South, West, and North-West. But, every thing considered, Meath and Westmeath more than hold their own in military achievement with any of the Irish counties. The Nugent family alone gave quite a battalion of soldiers to foreign service. Thus, General John Nugent, the fifth Earl of Westmeath, held high commands in the French service in the early eighteenth century, and Laval Nugent, the Austrian Count and Field Marshal of the early nineteenth century, was, though born in County Wicklow, of direct Westmeath family. Other military Nugents were Field Marshal Sir George Nugent ; Sir Christopher Nugent, fourteenth Baron Delvin ; Richard Nugent, twelfth Baron Delvin ; and Sir Richard Nugent, the fifteenth Baron and first Earl of Westmeath. Even this does not exhaust the list, Richard Nugent, the second Earl of Westmeath, being also worthy of mention, and Thomas, the fourth Earl, was



a conspicuous soldier in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. The Pakenhams were another family of Westmeath with a considerable military history. Sir Edward Michael Pakenham, who was killed during the Napoleonic wars, was a most brilliant soldier, and his brother, General Sir Hercules Pakenham, had also a distinguished military career. It is possible, also, that General Sir Denis Pack, already referred to under Kilkenny, may have been from Westmeath. One of the most famous of Irish soldiers was Field Marshal George Wade, whose exploits are written large in eighteenth century history. General Sir Maurice C. P. O'Connell, the late General Sir Mark Walker, V.C., and the present General Featherstonhaugh, are other Westmeath soldiers of repute.

Of Admirals, only two can be named—Sir Charles E. Nugent and Sir Thomas Pakenham, both contemporaries of a century ago. In diplomacy and administration Westmeath men have been exceptionally successful. The late Sir Hercules Robinson, afterwards Lord Rosmead, was a very distinguished Colonial Governor, and his career was uniformly creditable. In various parts of the world he emphasised the now notorious fact that Irishmen make the best rulers of other people. They are, of course, quite unable to manage their own affairs, but with characteristic perversity they never fail in successfully administering other people's interests. England is only the nominal ruler of the British Empire—she never lacks the assistance of Irishmen in running that gigantic concern. Lord Rosmead performed a most difficult task to the satisfaction of most people, and his brother, Sir William C. F. Robinson, was also a very capable administrator, governing several important Colonies successively. The eminent Colonial statesman, Sir Maurice O'Connell, was also from Westmeath, and Sir

Richard Pakenham and Sir Thomas F. Wade were noted diplomatists. Thomas H. Kavanagh, V.C., the well-known Indian Mutiny official, was also from Westmeath. Of lawyers, I can only find Chief Justice Nicholas Nugent, of the sixteenth century ; William Cruise, the legal writer of the early nineteenth century, and the present Lord Justice Walker, Lord Chancellor of Ireland. Science has not been very materially helped by Westmeath. William Edward Wilson, F.R.S., a well-known living astronomer, is perhaps the most notable Westmeath scientist, but if I am correct, the Rev. James Archibald Hamilton, another astronomer of distinction, may also be added to the list. Dr. Christopher Fleming, the late eminent surgeon, and Wellington Purdy, the engineer, were from Westmeath, and also Lieutenant-Colonel J. Chibborn, an engineer of repute of the present day.

Literature, in which most counties of Ireland seem to luxuriate, and which is perhaps the most striking feature of Irish genius, owes something to Westmeath. There are no great world-authors, but there are some excellent writers whose names and writings are of Irish interest and value. One or two of these are poets. Ancient writers are represented by Dermot O'Coffey and a host of other poetical Coffeys, a bardic line extending over a very long period. Muiredach O'Daly, the thirteenth century Gaelic poet, must also be named. Of modern Anglo-Irish poets, John Keegan Casey and Edmond G. A. Holmes are the best. Casey died before his gifts were fully matured. His many beautiful songs, instinct with genuine poetical fervour, are evidence of his possibilities. Though Ireland lost a good deal by his death, his best lyrics are not much inferior to any of the strictly national verse of the nineteenth century. "The Rising of the Moon," and other patriotic effusions by Casey

are likely to remain a permanent possession of Irish literature, and, personally, I think his love-poems among the finest ever written by Irishmen. "Maire, my Girl," "The Colleen Rue," "Gracie og Machree,"—to name but a few—are the nearest approach to the songs of Burns yet achieved by an Irish poet. The unequal nature of his work, and the unfinished appearance of many of his poems, may be due to the pressure under which they were written. But at least there are a dozen pieces by Casey of the highest order of merit. Edmond G. A. Holmes is a poet of different methods. His work is contemplative and deliberate—it is rarely spontaneous or lyrical. But it is excellent verse always, and occasionally it is more than that. He has a distinct place among living poets. A poet who is to be found in several Scottish anthologies is Charles Doyne Sillery, who wrote a good deal of verse in the earlier part of the last century. A few of his pieces have been very popular, and should find a place in any comprehensive Irish anthology. He was from Athlone, and, I think, from the Westmeath side of it, though Slane, in Meath, has also been given as his birthplace. A charming poet in America, James Riley, is also a Westmeath man. Some of his work will be met with occasionally in American periodicals, and he has published a volume which contains some very agreeable poems.

I prefer to consider John D'Alton as an antiquary, though he wrote much poetry, some of it very respectable. His "History of Co. Dublin," "Lives of the Archbishops of Dublin," "King James' Army List," and other works are valuable and interesting. His translations of Irish poems are not very convincing, but he was a learned archæologist, and was one of the famous group which included O'Donovan, O'Curry, Hennessy, Reeves, Todd,

Prendergast, and others who sought to throw light on early Irish history. The Abbe M'Geoghegan, author of a well-known "History of Ireland," which appeared in French in the eighteenth century, and is still consulted, was another famous Westmeath writer. His work is most readable and impartial. John Mitchel's continuation of it is a popular reminder of his interest in M'Geoghegan's "History." Conal Mageoghegan, the annalist of the seventeenth century, may also be noted here. Other writers of Westmeath are Richard Nugent, a poet, who flourished about 1604; and Robert Craggs, afterwards Earl Nugent, who was recognised as a poet in his day, but whose work will not bear re-reading nowadays. His odes are stilted and frigidly conventional to modern taste, but he was praised by some of his eminent contemporaries. He is best remembered now as a prominent politician and a man of affairs, and he was certainly one of the leading public characters of his time.

Sir Richard Levinge, a military and sporting writer, cannot be passed over in such a list as this, and the same may be said of John Charles Lyons, an antiquary, who did some good work in local history. I think the late Rev. Professor George Thomas Stokes, the antiquarian, was from that part of Athlone which is in Westmeath, and certainly William Pollard Urquhart, the economist and politician, was a native of the county. Mr. T. O'Neill Russell, a well-known figure in Irish contemporary literature, was born in Westmeath. He has done a good deal to rouse his countrymen to the revival of Irish music, and has worked hard for the Irish language. It is mainly due to his vigorous beliefs that several very interesting and useful movements are in being at all. It is ~~not~~ necessary to agree with all his views to acknowledge

this. He has written much, from his very popular stories, "Dick Massey" and "True Hearts' Trials," to his quite recent plays and poems. His "Beauties and Antiquities of Ireland" is an enthusiastic eulogy of the country, and such enthusiasm in a veteran is both refreshing and inspiring. Alfred W. Benn, the distinguished living Greek scholar, is a Westmeath man; and, finally, the Most Rev. John Colgan, Archbishop of Madras, claims a place among the worthies of Westmeath. Richard Rothwell, R.H.A., a true artist, was born in Athlone, but whether on the Westmeath side or the Connaught side, I have not been able to decide. If a Westmeath man, he is the only artist of any note. If a Connaught man, then Westmeath may be considered as barren in art.

## CHAPTER XXX.—GALWAY.



IN every kind of human activity Galway's record is very remarkable. It is almost impossible to do justice to it in an article like this, but the attempt must be made. As administrators, soldiers, writers, lawyers, scientists, Galway men have been very much to the front. Take the literary men first. In general literature we have Thomas M'Nevin, author of "The Confiscation of Ulster," and "The Irish Volunteers," whose early death was a blow to historical literature; Mrs. Nannie Power O'Donoghue (*nee* Lambert), a clever journalist; Dr. William James M'Nevin, the '98 man, and author of "Pieces of Irish History"; Edward A. Moriarty, the German scholar and translator; and several others less well-known. Charles O'Kelly, the historical writer, author of "Macariae Excidium" and other works; the Rev. Dr. John Lynch, who pulverised Giraldus in his "Cambrensis Eversus," and wrote other very learned books; James Hardiman, the eminent Irish scholar and historian of Galway; Roderick O'Flaherty, whose "Ogygia" is greatly esteemed by the learned; Florence Conry, the seventeenth century scholar; and the Most Rev. Francis Kirwan, Bishop of Killala, are a few of the earlier names of real importance connected with the history of Galway. Sir William Ouseley, F.R.S., the Orientalist, was also of Galway origin. Among novelists are the names of M. M'D. Bodkin, author of some clever and popular books; Miss Annie Keary (whose father was from Galway), author of the admirable "Castle Daly"

and other novels; Miss Violet Martin ("Martin Ross") who collaborates so well with Miss E. O'E. Somerville; Mrs. Bell Martin, whose novels were once much read; and Eyre Evans Crowe, who was not born in the county, but was of Galway family. His "To-Day in Ireland" and other similar books will repay reading even now, a great many years after their publication. Another writer, more famous, whose family belonged to Galway, was the Rev. Henry Francis Cary, the best of the English translators of Dante, John Wilson Croker, a bitter critic, a powerful writer, and still more notable as a politician, was, as everybody knows, a Galway man, and Peter Finnerty, one of the most prominent journalists of the same period, also came from the county. The late Ulick Ralph Burke, the Spanish scholar, must also be named.

Of poets there are many, and mostly good ones. Mary Kelly ("Eva" of the *Nation*), has written much verse, and one or two of her poems will always have a place in Irish anthologies. "Tipperary" and "The Patriot Mother" alone justify her reputation. Francis A. Fahy, perhaps the best of all Irish song writers, whose humorous and social lyrics are too good ever to be forgotten, has of late years received the praise which is his due, but the author of "The Ould Plaid Shawl" is destined to be still more popular among all lovers of Irish song. Others poets to be named are Michael J. McCann, author of "O'Donnell Aboo"; the Rev. Michael Mullin, who wrote "The Celtic Tongue," an eloquent plea for the native language; Anna L. Hildebrand, a clever but little known poetess; and Patrick O'Kelly, whose amusing satire, "The Doneraile Litany," is the best of his productions.

In art there is not much to be said, but Francis Cotes, an eminent painter of the eighteenth century, and his brother

Samuel Cotes, were of Galway parentage. Joseph P. Haverty, R.H.A., a well-known painter of the last century, was from Galway, and I think the clever landscapist of the present day, Miss Rose Barton, is of Galway origin. Augustus Burke, R.H.A., ought also to be mentioned. Science is represented by Richard Kirwan, F.R.S., the mineralogist; John Birmingham, the astronomer; Count Patrick D'Arcy, the naturalist; John S. Townsend, F.R.S., a great authority on electrical science, and Henry B. Medlicott, F.R.S., the geologist. Professor P. J. Freyer, M.D., a notable living surgeon, and Sir Henry Marsh, the famous physician of last century, are also eminent Galwegians, who have contributed something to medical science. And it may be noted that the great French physiologist, Professor Brown-Sequard, had a Galway father. To the science of geography, Galway has given some notable names. That extraordinary man, Sir Richard F. Burton, explorer, soldier, and poet, was of undoubted Galway family, and though not born there, must be considered as one of its greatest sons. It would take too much space to tell of his adventures, his valuable records of travel and exploration, his feats of scholarship, such as his wonderful version of "The Arabian Nights", or of his very clever translation of Camoens. It is sufficient to say that no more striking personality, or more versatile genius, lived in the nineteenth century, of which he was unquestionably one of the greatest glories. Robert O'Hara Burke, the Australian explorer, who died a martyr to his thirst for knowledge, was a native of Galway. The Australians have put up a monument to him in recognition of his services.

Galway has reared some notable military men. One of the best known is Sir Hudson Lowe, a distinguished officer, who, as the jailer of Napoleon at St. Helena, of which he



was governor, has been much abused by various writers. At the same time, it seems clear that Lowe was not the petty tyrant he has been pictured, and many excellent authorities demur to the hostile descriptions of him. He had a distinguished military career, and bore a character as a humane and kindly man. The Lally family, the greatest representative of which was the accomplished Count Lally, Marquis de Tollendal, the unfortunate French commander, was also from Galway, and Sir Edward Blakeney, an eminent British general, belonged to the same county. Sir John Bermingham, a noted Galway warrior of the fourteenth century; General Sir Ralph Ouseley, General Sir Henry Dermot Daly, General Sir John Taylor, General Henry Hall, General Kirwan, General William O'Shaughnessy, of the French service, and Colonel Francis French Staunton, also claim notice in this list, which is not by any means complete. Perhaps this is the best place to name Surgeon-General C. R. KilKelly.

Laurels have also been won by Galway in diplomacy and administrative capacity. Sir William Henry Gregory, the late Governor of Ceylon, Sir Dominic Daly, the Australian administrator; Sir Malachy B. Daly, of Canada; and Sir Gerald Fitzgerald of the Indian Government, were distinguished in their several appointments; and Richard Le Poer Trench, second Earl of Clancarty; Sir William Gore Ouseley, and especially Sir George Leonard Staunton, were noted diplomatists. Staunton went to China with Lord Macartney, and his book on China is a most valuable one. His son, Sir George Thomas Staunton, F.R.S., was one of the best Chinese scholars and Orientalists of his time. Of prominent Irish officials there have been several, including Sir Thomas Redington, and William Gregory, Under-Secretary at Dublin Castle, whose interesting

correspondence has been published by Lady Gregory. Sir Andrew Reed, another Irish official of recent years, may be added ; and Under-Secretary Thomas Henry Burke, who was assassinated in Phoenix Park, is probably better remembered than any of them. Aedanus Burke, the statesman, and Governor Thomas Burke, the patriot, both of America, must also be included.

There are also some well-known writers still to be named. Of the Gaelic poets, John O'Dugan and Raftery are the most important. Lady Gregory and Edward Martyn, in our own time, cannot be left unnoticed. In past times, the Rev. John Day Collis, an excellent classical scholar, and Ulick de Burgh, Earl of Clanricarde, author of a volume of famous "Memoirs," claim attention. Francis Stoughton Sullivan was a learned jurist and legal writer ; and among Protestant divines we have Bishop Robert Daly, who was prominent in Irish affairs in the early part of last century ; the celebrated preacher Walter Blake Kirwan ; and the Rev. Gideon Ouseley, a learned Methodist. I have already named several learned Catholic ecclesiastics, and need only add here the Rev. Francis Martin, a learned Augustinian ; the Rev. Dr. Nicholas Murray ; the Rev. Richard Lynch, S.J. ; the Most Rev. Edmund French ; the Rev. Peter French, the Dominican ; and the Most Rev. James Lynch, Archbishop of Tuam. Father Tom Burke deserves a place apart ; as a great preacher and as a personality his name stands high among Irishmen. His sermons and his brilliant lectures and addresses on Irish subjects are most admirable. His wit and humour are often quoted—his biographer, W. J. Fitzpatrick, has perhaps laid too much stress on the less serious side of his character.

Denis Daly, of the Irish Parliament, and Richard Martin, the humanitarian, to whose exertions much of the present

kindness to animals is due, were well-known Galway men. The late Lord Morris, though, perhaps, better remembered as a wit than as a lawyer ; Chief Justice Monahan ; Richard D. Ireland, of the Australian bar ; and the notorious Judge William Keogh, who was connected with Galway, were lawyers of considerable reputation, though the last-named was rather politician than judge. The Hon. Archer Martin, a judge in British Columbia, is also a Galway man. Only one Galway musician is known to me—the late Patrick Sarsfield Gilmore, of American fame. Finally, Richard Daly, a theatrical manager of some note in the eighteenth century, and Captain Wilson Rathborne, a distinguished naval officer of last century, close the present attempt at a fairly complete record of what Galway has done in intellectual fields.

## CHAPTER XXXI.—CLARE.



**W**HAT is the particular profession or study in which Clare men have most excelled? Irish scholarship would seem to be the study which Clare has taken up most earnestly and successfully, judging by the number of excellent scholars who have come from that county. The great name of Eugene O'Curry first leaps to the eye, as the French would say. Few men have done as much for native Irish literature as that fine scholar. When one thinks of his numerous editions of archæological works, his translations and transcriptions, his work in the libraries, and, finally, of his invaluable "Lectures on the MSS. Materials of Irish History," and his "Manners and Customs of the Ancient Irish," one can only wonder how a man could accomplish so much. Another great Irish scholar is Standish Hayes O'Grady, editor of "*Silva Gadelica*" and other texts, who began his labours many years ago for the Ossianic Society. He has done a vast amount of valuable work for the ancient language. The late Professor Brian O'Looney also did something for the Irish language, and the present David Comyn is a well-known Gaelic scholar, who, it may be hoped, will yet complete his standard edition of Keating's "History." Chevalier O'Gorman was a careful collector of Irish manuscripts, and it is almost certain that but for him we would be without some very notable specimens of the old literature. Clare was the birthplace, too, of Peter O'Connell, a learned Irish scribe and lexicographer, and the

same county has produced a large number of Gaelic writers. Prominent among these were Brian Merriman, author of the famous poem, "The Midnight Court," now attracting new attention from scholars in Germany and elsewhere; Donogh M'Conmara, author of "The Fair Hills of Ireland," and other poems, carefully collected and edited by T. J. Flannery; Maolin M'Bruaidach, Teige MacDaire, Donogh O'Daly, and a host of other Clare poets of the latter name and family. Hugh M'Curtin, a notable scholar, and Andrew M'Curtin, the poet, also have a leading place in this galaxy. Among the Clare writers in Irish of the present day, Thomas Hayes must be included.

In Anglo-Irish literature likewise Clare men hold their own. I give the best-known among them more or less indiscriminately. Thomas Amory, the eccentric author of that queer book, "John Bunclie," was from Clare; Edward ("Pleasant Ned") Lysaght was an unmistakable Clare man, and though his vogue was sufficiently great for the public to attribute to him many things which he did not write, yet what he did write is sometimes very good. Thomas Dermody, the poet, aroused more interest than his poems justify, and more sympathy than his personal deserts. I have failed to find anything specially noteworthy in his various volumes of verse. The fact that some of them were written at a tender age hardly excuses their preservation, and even his most mature work shows a moderate poetical talent and a lack of cultivation. Dr. Michael Clancy wrote a dull volume of memoirs, and a play which was thought fairly well of by his contemporaries of the eighteenth century. William Macnamara Downes wrote some very tolerable verse, better than Dermody's, but practically unknown, and John Jackson

("Terry Driscoll") was in his day a brilliant journalist, and something of a humorist. At any rate his amusing accounts of local affairs in his native county are even yet spoken of, though Jackson has been dead half a century. Among the most notable of recent Clare writers, Frances Marcella (otherwise Attie) O'Brien must be mentioned for her excellent stories and poems, and her namesake—though not a relative—Charlotte Grace O'Brien—has written a volume of most graceful lyrics and a clever novel. She has given other services to the country generally which need not be detailed, though a bare reference may be made to her efforts to ameliorate the lot of the Irish emigrant.

One of the leading Irish writers of to-day is Richard Barry O'Brien, an able historical and political writer, whose biographies of C. S. Parnell, Lord Russell of Killowen, and Thomas Drummond, are standard works, and whose "Fifty Years of Concessions to Ireland" and similar books, half history, half politics, are almost the best things we have from the Irish side. Another admirable writer from Clare is Richard Ashe King, author of some really brilliant novels, especially "The Wearing of the Green," which had wit enough to set up half a dozen of the English so-called wits of the time. Clever writer as he is, however, Mr. Ashe King is even cleverer as a lecturer. Perhaps no such acute and sparkling speaker can be found among the literary men of to-day. It is a loss to literature that some of these brilliant addresses are not gathered into a volume. Many people have heard of Benjamin Kidd, the author of "Social Evolution" and other philosophical works; but few knew him to be an Irishman, fewer still that he is from Clare. Miss Florence Stacpoole, a versatile author and journalist, and Lady Colin Campbell (*nee* Blood) are two Clare ladies who have won distinction in journalism or letters. The

latter was one of the earliest, as she is one of the best of women journalists. Other authors from Clare are Michael Staunton, a former Dublin journalist of great influence and ability, whose political pamphlets, such as "*Hints for Haringe*," and "*Lessons for Lamb*," are very vigorously written; Stephen Joseph Meany, the Fenian journalist and poet; Marcus Keane, author of a well-known work on "*The Towers and Temple of Ancient Ireland*"; John H. Wardell the present Professor of History of Trinity College, Dublin; Lucas White King, an eminent Arabic scholar and authority on Eastern questions; Henry Lucas, the poet, son of a famous Irishman to be presently mentioned; and Edward O'Brien, author of "*The Lawyer*," a very thoughtful and excellent book. The Rev. Sylvester Malone, the historian of the Church, cannot be omitted here.

The legal fraternity from Clare are fairly numerous. One would think that Clare people took naturally to law. Only a few of its limbs need be named here. Sir Michael O'Loughlen was a distinguished judge, and his son, Sir Colman O'Loughlen, was a worthy son of his father. Baron Stephen Woulfe was another imposing legal functionary. Jonathan Henn was a notable orator and advocate. Samuel H. Bindon was an able lawyer in Australia, and the present Lord Chief Justice, Lord O'Brien, is, I think, also a native of the famous county of which this chapter treats.

The art or science of politics is closely connected with law, and is so frequently the stepping-stone to legal position that this is the best place to deal with the many Clare politicians—some of whom bear honoured names. Those to be named were, of course, not lawyers. Dr. Charles Lucas, whose writings did so much to rouse his countrymen to a sense of their rights and duties as citizens, was a native

of Clare. He took up the cause of Ireland against England, which Swift had so successfully vindicated, and he may be said to have preserved the continuity of the Irish struggle in the interval which separated the famous Dean of St. Patrick's from Grattan and the Volunteers. His patriotic labours were not wholly confined to what might be called the national question, for he tackled some of the difficult local problems, and especially the question of a reformed Corporation, with equal energy. While he lived he gave the City Fathers, whose corruption and jobbery were quite scientific, a very lively time of it. His memory deserves to be honoured by his countrymen. Later politicians of renown were William Smith O'Brien, the honourable and able leader of the Irish Party in a time of storm and stress; Thomas Steele, the faithful, almost fanatical, follower of O'Connell, whose honesty and straightness seemed to be so startling that he was universally known as "Honest Tom Steele;" and that grand old figure, The O'Gorman Mahon, who must have felt sadly out of his element in his latter days when honourable members appealed to the Speaker for protection, instead of dispatching their seconds to an aggressor. Sir Lucius O'Brien and Nicholas Purcell O'Gorman may be added to this list of Clare politicians.

Clare has an excellent military record, which goes back to King Brian, who may be reasonably claimed for Clare. His smashing of the Danish forces has not been paralleled at home or abroad by any modern Claremen, but there have been some distinguished soldiers from the county. Murrough O'Brien ("Murrough of the Burnings"), Charles O'Brien, the fifth Viscount Clare, and his namesake, the sixth Viscount Clare, who fought so valiantly for France, which made him a marshal, are only three of a host of



military O'Eriens of Thomond and Inchiquin. They are the most famous of the clan. In more recent times Clare has contributed to the British Empire some skilful soldiers, such as General Sir Ormsby Vandeleur, Field-Marshal Sir J. F. Fitzgerald, General Richard England, and his son, General Sir Richard England, Colonel James J. O'Brien, and Captain Thomas Rice Henn, all men of repute, while among living soldiers the names of General Sir T. Kelly-Kenny, General Sir Bindon Blood, General Sir R. C. Hart, V.C.; General Arthur Fitzroy Hart, and General Sir O'Moore Creagh, V.C., are very familiar. It is pretty certain that the notorious Colonel Thomas Blood, who stole the Crown jewels from the Tower of London, and did other daring deeds, military and predatory, was a Clare man. Such a desperado might have done wonders with an army if he had not developed a passion for burglary and highway robbery. There are also several distinguished naval officers to the credit of Clare. Admiral Donat Henchy O'Brien was a very capable seaman, and his memoirs give a graphic account of a very adventurous career. Admiral James O'Brien, third Marquis of Thomond; Admiral Sir Burton M'Namara, Admiral James M'Namara, and Admiral Thomas M'Namara Russell, are three other eminent Claremen in naval history.

Of diplomatists and administrators, the most prominent have been William O'Brien, second Earl of Inchiquin; Sir Robert Michael Laffan; and the present Charles Fitzgerald, the Australian Colonial Governor; Charles Vandeleur Creagh, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Labuan. Matthew O'Brien, the mathematician, and Doctor Michael Fitzgerald, C.M.G., the present eminent naval surgeon, are the only Claremen of scientific attainments I am aware of.

In Art, however, there are two famous Claremen.

William Mulready, R.A., a painter of great repute, and Sir Frederic W. Burton, the water-colourist, are men of whom any county might be justly proud. Burton's family may have been of Limerick origin, but he was born in Clare. As an artist and as a very remarkable connoisseur of pictures, Burton's name stands high. The Anglo-American painter, John Singleton Copley, R.A., was also of either Limerick or Clare parentage.

In religious annals, St. Senan, or Senanus, is a notable figure; but it is curious to note that Clare has not been prolific in ecclesiastical dignitaries. Apart from Archbishop Malachy Quaelly and the Franciscan, Father Anthony Hickey, I know of no eminent Catholic personages associated with Clare. Nor, on the other hand, have there been any Protestant divines of any particular distinction, the late Dr. John Gregg, Bishop of Cork, being the solitary example known to me. His son, however, Robert Samuel Gregg, born in Dublin, became Archbishop of Armagh. Finally, Clare, somewhat undistinguished in dramatic and entirely barren in musical art, nevertheless gave to the stage a very competent eighteenth century actor, William O'Brien, and in the last century bestowed upon it Miss Harriet Smithson, an actress who found much favour in France, where she married the great composer, Hector Berlioz, a partnership which gave that eccentric genius, who adored her, more trouble than he could have possibly anticipated.

## CHAPTER XXXII.—LIMERICK.



NEXT to Cork, Limerick has most distinguished itself among the Southern counties. Literature, music, and warfare are the things in which Limerick people have most delighted. Why there should be more musical ability in this county than in art-loving Cork, or in its other next-door neighbours, is difficult to decide, but nothing succeeds like success, and the mere belief of Limerick people that they are eminently musical, might of itself conduce to a greater development of the art amongst them. It cannot be said that Limerick has produced a great number of musical celebrities, but it has done better than most other counties in giving to the world such a famous singer as Catherine Hayes, such a clever pianist and composer as George Alexander Osborne, and such an excellent tenor as Joseph O'Mara. There may have been others, but these are all I find. In literature, the output is quite remarkable, and even imposing. Take the poets, Sir Aubrey de Vere wrote two or three most admirable poetic dramas and some first-rate sonnets, among the best in the English language. His more gifted son, Aubrey Thomas de Vere, also wrote exquisite sonnets, some fine odes, several impressive dramas, and some lovely lyrics—the best of which are those Irish in subject. He wrote too much, however, for his fame, and though no fewer than three attempts have been made to give a selection from his voluminous verses, none of them

can be called together successful. But Aubrey de Vere remains one of our greatest poets. His brother, Sir Stephen de Vere, has also written some excellent poems, but his versions from Horace are his best work—they are probably the best in English. Gerald Griffin has a high place among Irish poets, and a still higher one among Irish novelists.

John Francis O'Donnell was, to my thinking, one of the chief modern Irish poets, and the selection made from his innumerable poems does not do him anything like justice. His poetical gift was a very distinguished one. Robert Dwyer Joyce was a good ballad-writer, but he has been overrated, and with the exception of a few songs and one or two ballads, his work will not last. His verse is never finished, and it too often lacks melody. It is sometimes graphic, but often at the expense of the necessary inspiration of poetry. Andrew Cherry wrote a couple of popular songs, and some clever dramatic pieces, and Doctor John Francis Waller had a true ear for poetry, a few of his lyrics being very charming. The late Michael Hogan, but for his diffuseness, might have secured a considerable place among Irish poets. His satirical vein, however, interfered with the muse, and there is consequently very little in his volumes which will stand the great test. But he had undoubted poetical feeling, which he was unable to restrain. Fitzjames O'Brien was a very clever writer, both of stories and poems, some of the latter showing great versatility, being occasionally powerful, and often very sweet. The late Nicholas Flood Davin, the Canadian poet, also deserves a place in this list, and unfortunate Edward Purdon, of whom Goldsmith wrote as an epitaph—

“ Here lies poor Ned Purdon, from misery hurled,  
Who long was a bookseller's hack ;  
He led such a d——ble life in this world,  
That I don't think he'll wish to come back ! ”

cannot be overlooked altogether, though his name survives in literature chiefly by reason of the above quatrain. The late Mrs. O. T. Knox wrote some really good verse. Daniel Hayes, another Limerick poet, almost contemporary with Purdon, was also an unfortunate and not too reputable poet. Michael Scanlan, the Irish-American poet, is well worthy of mention also. Another poet, who died young, after showing some power, was Thomas Condon, and this list of Limerick poets may close with the hymn-writers, Aaron Crossley Seymour and the Rev. Thomas Drew.

In other literary callings, Limerick also shows up well, Gerald Griffin's "*Collegians*" remains among the first of Irish novels, and some of his shorter stories are also admirable. Frankfort Moore, the popular novelist of the present day, is also a Limerick man, and Fitzjames O'Brien's weird stories, after the manner of Edgar Allan Poe, are better known in his adopted country—America—than they are here. Charles Johnstone, a rather faded eighteenth century romancist, is not read now, though his "*Chrysal, or the Adventures of a Guinea*," is worth a perusal. The Rev. Richard O'Kennedy has written a very graceful little volume of stories which deserves to be widely known; and Lady Lytton, the rather unhappy wife of that impossible person, Lord Lytton, was far cleverer than her novel would suggest. She was indeed a very brilliant, if hysterical, woman. Other Limerick writers include Doctor Patrick W. Joyce, whose works have added so much to our knowledge of Ireland's history, legends and music; Charles M'Cormick, the historical writer; John Henderson, the scholar and poet (whose poems, however, are of small account); John Ferrar, a miscellaneous author, who dabbled to some slight purpose into local history; Thomas Grady, a savage satirist; James M'Gregor, another local

historian ; the Rev. John Keogh, D.D., an eminent divine ; Doctor Samuel Crumpe, author of a work of some value to economists, and quoted with approval in Lecky's "History of Ireland" ; Jonathan Ashe, a Masonic writer ; Doctor Robert Shelton MacKenzie, an indefatigable collector of Irish matters, and chiefly known as the editor of Maginn and other Irish authors ; the Rev. Michael Seymour, a zealous controversialist, with certain anti-Papist hallucinations ; Edward Fitzgibbon, one of the best of writers on angling ; Sylvester O'Halloran, an excellent historian of the eighteenth century, whose works can be read with far more interest than is usual among the writers of his time ; and in later times, several interesting people, including Michael MacDonagh, the well-known author of the present day. To these might be added Gerald Fitzgibbon, the somewhat bigoted writer of "Ireland in 1868," and other things ; Count O'Clery, who has written an interesting work on modern Italy ; the Rev. Richard Graves, and his son, the Rev. Richard Hastings Graves, both well known Protestant divines and authors. Some distinguished Catholic ecclesiastics may also be named here, some of them being authors. Archbishop Peter Creagh and Archbishop Richard Creagh were famous characters in their day, and Archbishop Dermot O'Hurley, who was martyred for his faith, was a saintly prelate whose memory is revered in Ireland. The Rev. James Arthur, the Dominican, the Rev. Maurice Kinrehtin, the Rev. David Wolfe, a learned Jesuit, the Rev. Francis Higgins, "the Irish Sacheverell," and the Rev. Thaddeus O'Malley, the Federalist, were all notable men.

In Science, too, there are some familiar names—Peter Woulfe, F.R.S., the chemist (and alchemist) ; William Henry Harvey, the botanist ; Richard James

Graves, F.R.S., the great surgeon ; Dr. Thomas Arthur, a distinguished physician of the seventeenth century ; the Rev. H. H. Harte, the mathematician ; Sir William Brooke O'Shaughnessy, the great Indian engineer ; Colonel H. A. Moorhead, a military engineer of considerable reputation ; Sir Andrew Searle Hart, a recent noted mathematician ; and finally Sir John M'Namara Hayes, a fashionable physician of the later Georgian period—these were all Limerick men who did something for scientific progress.

Statesmen and diplomatists are also well represented. John Fitzgibbon, Earl of Clare (named also under Dublin, where he was born), was a man of commanding intellect, however one may view his career, and he must be regarded as one of the greatest men of his epoch. Edmond Sexton Pery, Viscount Pery, was another distinguished statesman of the same period, and among other politicians, diplomatists and officials may be named Sir Gore Ouseley, an able diplomat (whose son, by the way, was Sir Frederick Gore Ouseley, the well-known English musician) ; Sir Terence Murray, a capable Colonial Governor (whose son, Professor G. A. Murray, is a first-rate Greek scholar) ; Thomas Shuldham O'Halloran, and William L. O'Halloran, Australian officials ; Sir Henry Blake, Governor of Jamaica ; the late Lord Monteagle, an eminent politician ; the late Lord Emly, also well-known for his interest in public affairs ; and William N. Massey, who was prominent in politics about the middle of the last century, and wrote one rather interesting book. In this connection it may be noted, in passing, that two out of the three Irish Estates Commissioners—William F. Bailey and Michael Finucane—are also Limerick men. Of the lawyers, the most notable of Limerick birth or parentage are Lord Justice John

Naish, Lord Justice Fitzgibbon, Standish O'Grady, the witty first Viscount Guillamore, Baron Fitzgerald, and Justice Lefroy. There are also one or two eminent Protestant divines of Limerick origin, Bishop William Fitzgerald being the most notable, though Thomas Barnard, Bishop of Limerick, and friend of Dr. Johnson, was also evidently an accomplished man. I am, however, uncertain as to his belonging to Limerick.

To the stage Limerick has contributed the delightful actress, Ada Rehan. Apart from her name, the only other Limerick theatrical personage is Charles Groves, an excellent actor. This is the occasion to mention the notorious Lola Montez—otherwise Elizabeth Rosanna Gilbert—who was everything by turns and nothing long—at one time ruling a kingdom—and she ruled Bavaria very well—at another time dancing in a third-rate hall for a livelihood. Except her beauty and a certain power of fascination, she had nothing to recommend her to the great personages whom she seems to have twisted round her finger. Her life was, everything considered, a miserable one. Another queer Limerick worthy was John St. John Long, who practised art and medicine, and who managed to attract the most fashionable people of his time by his quackeries.

Before dealing with the military men, room must be found for the first Earl of Dunraven, who did some valuable service to Irish antiquities, and David Shea, a distinguished Orientalist. Limerick has produced a remarkable group of soldiers. In a sense, through J. B. MacMahon, Marquis d'Eguilly, it has a claim on Marshal MacMahon, Duke of Magenta, and President of the French Republic. But the connection is somewhat remote and need not be pressed. What Limerick has done in military history may be gauged from the fact that Maurice de Lacy, the Russian general ;



Count Peter Lacy, Russian field marshal, and his son Field Marshal Maurice de Lacy, of the Austrian service, with many other Lacys, were of Limerick family, where not actually born in Limerick, as also was George, Count de Browne, another foreign officer of great distinction. General Andrew O'Reilly, the famous Austrian commander, was also, I think, a Limerick man. Some very renowned English soldiers came from the same county, such as General Sir Eyre Coote, and his brilliant son of the same name and rank; Eyre Massey, Lord Clarina; General Sir De Lacy Evans, General Sir Hugh Massy Wheeler, General Sir George Floyd Hodges, General Sir Thomas M'Mahon, General Sir Joseph O'Halloran, Field-Marshal Hugh, Viscount Gough, Standish O'Grady, the second Viscount Guillamore, and Lord William Blakeney. Of these, Lord Gough was the most remarkable, though it would be difficult to find a better soldier than Evans. Surely this is a striking record for any one county. Military genius seems to have been rife in County Limerick in the days of these men. Admiral Sir Michael Seymour and his son, of similar name and equal rank, and Admiral Hayes O'Grady, are the only naval men of any distinction connected with Limerick that I know of. The only other names which remain are those of Francis Bindon, the eighteenth century portrait painter, and St. George Hare, a rising artist of the present day. Andrew M'Grath, John O'Tuomy, David O'Bruaidir, and the Rev. William English, the Gaelic poets, worthily complete this remarkable list of Limerick notabilities.

THE END.

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